

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE / SUBJECTS 0072

830 SCOMM30: CONFERENCE ON ALASKA'S FUTURE FRONTIERS 1979

SCOMM 30: CONFERENCE ON ALASKA'S FUTURE FRONTIERS
1979
LIST OF FILES (PAGE 1)

CONFERENCE CHAIRMEN: SENATOR GEORGE HOHMAN
REPRESENTATIVE RUSS MEEKINS

THIS CONFERENCE, SPONSORED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WAS HELD ON DECEMBER 6, 7 AND 8, 1979, AT THE SHERATON ANCHORAGE HOTEL. THE PROGRAM STATES THAT IT "...IS A CONTINUATION OF A PROCESS BEGUN TEN YEARS AGO WITH THE CONVENING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL/BROOKINGS INSTITUTION CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF ALASKA"

THE FILES CONSIST MAINLY OF TRANSCRIPTS OF THE MEETINGS, CORRESPONDENCE AND MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS USED BEFORE AND AFTER THE CONFERENCE.

TOTAL VOLUME: 1 CUBIC FOOT; 24 ITEMS

1. INFORMATION FOLDER
2. PUBLIC PAPERS SUBMITTED TO FUTURE FRONTIERS DECEMBER 1979

PROCEEDINGS OF CONFERENCE (19 VOLUMES)

3. (ALPHA GROUP) V.1 (DEC.6, 1979) 116 PAGES
- 4.- 5. (ALPHA GROUP) V.2 (DEC.7,1979) 262 PAGES
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6. (ALPHA GROUP) V.3 (DEC.8,1979) 66 PAGES
7. (BETA GROUP) V.1 (DEC.6,1979) 106 PAGES
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20. BANQUET (BUCKMINSTER FULLER, SPEAKER)
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21. RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY (52 PAGES)
22. PUBLICATION: "CONFERENCE ON ALASKA'S FUTURE FRONTIERS..." LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DECEMBER 1979 (1 VOLUME)
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SCOMM

#30:1

CONFERENCE ON ALASKA'S FUTURE FRONTIERS 1979

Conference Chairmen: Sen. George Hohman, Rep. Russ Meekins

This conference, sponsored by Legislative Council, was held on December 6, 7, 8, 1979, at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel. The program states that it "...is a continuation of a process begun ten years ago with the convening of the Legislative Council/Brookings Institution Conference on the Future of Alaska."

The files consist mainly of transcripts of the meetings, correspondence and miscellaneous materials used before and after the conference.

Total volume: 1 cubic foot; 24 items

ITEMS

Item	<u>Contents and Description of Materials in Folders</u>	
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2	Public papers submitted to Future Frontiers 12/79	
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20	Banquet (Buckminster Fuller, speaker) 12/6 (85p.)	
21	Recommendations and Summary (52p.)	
22	Publication: "Conference on Alaska's Future Frontiers..." Legislative Council 12/79 (1 vol.)	
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23	Departmental and Executive Branch responses to Conference recommendations.	
24	Miscellaneous materials 1979-1980	

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Sen. George

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TO: Legislative Reference Librarian

November 28, 1980

FROM: Marcie Sharrock *Marcie*
Anchorage Legislative Information Office

The attached original Future Frontiers, Public Papers, were unearthed in our reference library and should be included with the official project papers in your custody. No-one here is sure how we came about to have these reports in our files.

CO-CHAIRMEN
SENATOR GEORGE HOHMAN
REPRESENTATIVE RUSS MECKINS



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Alaska State Legislature

A Conference on Alaska's FUTURE FRONTIERS

Dec. 4, 1979

Planning for the next 10 years

Index of Public Papers submitted to the Future Frontiers Conference:

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INDEPENDENCE--AN ALTERNATIVE FUTURE FOR ALASKA
by Marilyn Dudley Rowley

27 November 79

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Independence--An Alternative Future for Alaska was written by Marilyn Dudley Rowley, co-author of the upcoming book, Alaska--Energy Lands: The Inside Story.

Rowley has spent some three years researching modern Alaska--its people, resources, and position in the world. Her background as feature editor of an Army magazine published by the 172d Infantry Brigade, ad agency work in Anchorage, and news director of KRXA Radio in Seward have contributed to the research which went into Alaska-- Energy Lands.

The paper she submits here is the start of her second book which will be about Alaskan individualism and the Independence Movement in The Great Land.

The author is currently working on a graduate degree at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks and recently was elected to the secretary's position of the Political Action Arm of Alaskans for Independence at the first Alaska-wide convention of that organization.

In addition to her graduate work, she continues to write on Alaskan issues and does media consulting work for friends.

A former South Carolinian, she came to Alaska in the early seventies with the U.S. Army where she became the first woman to successfully complete mountain combat training at Eklutna Glacier.

She holds a B.A. degree in English from Winthrop College, Rock Hill, South Carolina. She has done graduate work at the University of Alaska at Anchorage and Washington State University. She is legislative chairman for the Fairbanks Business and Professional Women's Club and holds an award from the Mathematical Association of America. She is 26 and married to Eugene Arthur Rowley of Fairbanks.

The author wishes to acknowledge her co-authors of Alaska--Energy Lands since some of the material in this paper was taken from that book. Her co-authors are P.M. Ivey and Helen Bailey, both of Fairbanks. Also, the author would like to acknowledge the efforts of Barry Jackson of Fairbanks who made numerous suggestions and helped edit the paper.

INDEPENDENCE--AN ALTERNATIVE FUTURE FOR ALASKA
by Marilyn Dudley Rowley

In Alaska, for the past five years, "Independence" has been synonymous with the name of Joe Vogler of Fairbanks. This identification can be attributed to the Alaskan press, especially the electronic media, who in their haste to get a three-second actuality on the air, latch on to the short, spicy comments of Mr. Vogler. Most Alaskans do not hear the complete report. Few know that Joe Vogler is an attorney. Little do they know that this man has explored the legal avenues of Alaskan Independence in a sane, rational manner.

Yet, the media caricature of Vogler is all the Alaska public has to remind it of an historic notion--the notion of a Republic of Alaska.

Historical Background

The spirit of political Independence in Alaska is a phenomenon with a heritage nearly as old as the American Revolution. In 1790, the young United States still had no specie. So, Boston merchants and shippers turned to the Alaska fur trade to build the new nation's economy. At that time, Alaska was a part of Russian America. Before long, however, the Russians were astounded at the number of Yankee ships plying Alaskan waters. In the ensuing years, businessmen lobbied Congress fiercely. The push was on to separate Alaska from Russia. Some historic events arose in part over the Alaska question --the first Russian ambassador came to the United States and the Monroe Doctrine was drafted.

People from several nations poured into Alaska, all seeking fortune and adventure. With them came the power of individualism and democratic ideals. During this period, a group of Russian workers at Kodiak tried to enlist Yankee aid in a revolution attempt. Unfortunately, the Americans they approached were more interested in the profitable relationship they had established with the Russian American Company. The revolutionaries found their trust had been misplaced when the Americans turned them over to colonial authorities.

However, as mentioned before, the United States was more interested in separating Alaska from Russia. Lobbying Congress was not the only tactics used. The Yankees traded all sorts of weaponry to the Tlingits of Southeastern Alaska to aid in Native resistance against the Czar. The Russians found themselves hard put to turn a blind eye to the heavy cannonry in Tlingit arsenals which had been forged in the United States.¹

1. For further reading into these events see Howard Kushner's Conflict on the Northwest Coast, H.H. Bancroft's History of Alaska, and James Gibson's Imperial Russia in Frontier America.

In 1861, negotiations began between Empress Catherine of Russia and U.S. Russian ambassador Cassius Clay. By 1867, a document had been hammered out which gave the United States only the right to govern Alaska.²

A week after transferral ceremonies in Sitka, Secretary of the Interior, O.H. Browning sent word to Alaskans saying that any attempts to acquire land were illegal and anyone who tried would be forceably evicted.³ This was indeed a strange order from a nation which had made a policy of blessing those who delved into the wilderness of Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Oregon! This warning suggests that the Interior Secretary of 1867 understood that the United States did not own Alaska. The U.S. government evidently could not parcel out land even to those who resided in the territory.

Moreover, in 1867, American Indians were still being exterminated to make way for settlers from the East Coast. General Custer had not yet made his last stand at Little Big Horn. Therefore, it is doubtful the Interior Secretary locked up Alaska back then out of deference to the Alaska Native.

To keep Alaska from hanging out in political limbo, the Fortieth Congress (1867-69) made Alaska a customs district, which made foreign goods subject to the same duties as other U.S. ports, extended laws for commerce and navigation, and made importing and selling distilled liquor illegal. In 1884, Congress passed an Organic Act for Alaska, making it a civil and judicial district, provided for a governor and court system, and also allotted \$25,000 for education. Although none of the land laws of the U.S. could be applied to Alaska, Congress established a land district with land offices in Sitka to disburse land they were prevented by law from disbursing.

An 1885 treaty gave Alaska Natives jurisdiction over lands they "claimed or possessed."⁴ Yet, this simple clause caused undue legal haggling in later years.

All government offices were Federal and appointive. Alaska became a preserve for the payment of political favors. Regulations for Alaska were suffixed by "as prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior."

Congress extended coal land laws to Alaska in 1900 which left the country open to subsequent decisions about coal lands in the contiguous United States. In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt withdrew all coal lands in the United States, including Alaska. In that same year, Congress also passed the Antiquities Act, giving the President the

2. For further information on Russian-American agreements see "Imperial Russia Didn't Rule Alaska Natives," Tundra Times, 17 Oct 79.

3. Letter of Secretary of the Interior O.H. Browning to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, Joseph S. Wilson, July, 1867.

4. This treaty was influenced by Ramona, a book on the taking of California Indian lands, written by Helen Hunt Jackson.

authority to establish national monuments on public lands to protect historic and cultural values.⁵

In 1911, exasperated Alaskans had had enough. Spurred to action by the government's failure to act on Alaska coal land cases, 300 Cordova businessmen and citizens marched to the docks, boarded a ship of imported coal from British Columbia and proceeded to throw several tons of it overboard.⁶ In 1912, Congress granted Alaska territorial status. It provided for a legislature, an appointed governor, and a non-voting delegate to Congress. Yet, it prevented the territorial legislature from passing any land laws or laws regulating fish and game, or altering or repealing any Federal laws. It was a much more limited self-government than was given to any other territory of the United States.⁷

Gradually, many Alaskans began to arrive at the notion that statehood might solve the problem of the restrictive Federal hand.

In 1943, Alaska's Congressional Delegate Anthony Dimond proposed statehood, but did not succeed. This bid came during a period of time which saw the near pull-out of the American military in face of what authorities believed to be a Japanese invasion of the Alaskan mainland.⁸ In 1951, after more requests for statehood, some citizens became impatient. During that year's territorial legislative session, a House memorial, although withdrawn, asked that Alaska be granted statehood or be given its independence from the government of the United States and be permitted to form the "Republic of Alaska."⁹

In January 1957, a group of Alaskans journeyed to Washington, D.C. and started compiling informational and personal data files on each member of the 85th Congress, delving into their attitudes on Alaskan statehood. C.W. Snedden, publisher of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, hired a detective agency to deal with those senators and representatives who remained doubtful or opposed to statehood. The agency managed to unearth a few instances that would compromise certain political careers. To gain leverage, the news was leaked to some of the nation's top columnists. The columnist would then call the Congressmen involved and trade the information for a vote in support of statehood.

Alaska was granted statehood in 1959.

The last territorial governor, Mike Stepovich, commented in the winter of 1979 that the Alaskan people, with the exception of a few old timers, did not understand the contents of the statehood contract. Events in the seventies indicate that the Alaskan understanding of the statehood contract is different than the Federal view.

5. See appendix. 6. "Cordova Has Boston Tea Party," Cordova Daily Alaskan, May 4, 1911, p.1. 7. Ernest Gruening, The State of Alaska, Random House, 1954, p. 158. Italics mine. 8. Army field histories record the indecision of General Buckner and others to remain and defend The Great Land. 9. John R. Noyes, Commissioner of Roads to Joe T. Flakne, Chief, Alaska Division, Office of Territories, file 9-1-63, Territorial Legislative--General Classified Files, 1907-51, Box 449, Records of the Office of Territories, RG 126, NA, May 7, 1951.

Present-day Summary

The idea of Alaskan Independence has gained momentum since Fairbanksan Joe Vogler kicked it rudely awake in 1973. Alaskans have come to the end of the line with the Federal cycle of neglect and exploitation. Many who thought statehood would relieve economic and political oppression have since changed their minds.

In 1974, Ernest Gruening, before his death, wrote Vogler that he wasn't ready to join Alaskans for Independence until all other means were exhausted in fighting the U.S. Government over the D-2 withdrawals. He ended his letter by writing that Vogler deserved a medal for starting Alaskans for Independence.¹⁰

On November 17th of this year, in Anchorage, former state attorney general Edgar Paul Boyko, told the first Alaska-wide Alaskans for Independence convention that although he had been a co-founder of Alaskans for Statehood, during the statehood effort in 1956 he became a minority of one in insisting on Independence.

The first Alaska-wide Alaskans for Independence convention in November brought members together from as far away as Cooper Landing and Eagle. For the first time, the movement could put selling bumper stickers and demonstrating into a back seat. Reviewing promising public surveys and organizing the movement were the prime orders of business. Public opinion surveys taken at the 1979 Anchorage Fur Rondy and the 1979 Palmer State Fair were not scientific in that those who answered them were not randomly solicited by AFI members. Instead, the surveys reflected the opinions of people who walked up to AFI information booths of their own accord. Both surveys show strong support for Independence and the Palmer survey indicates that half of some 1200 who answered the survey favors a commonwealth status or a break with the United States. This figure has encouraged increased Independence activity within the Alaskans for Independence organization.

A strong theme which came out of the November 79 meeting was that the majority of Independence-minded people view Alaska as an emerging colony of the United States, not as a disobedient state that expects to use revolution to achieve its goals. It is evident that Alaskans prefer Independence to proceed along the same peaceful path as the Caribbean and African colonies of Great Britain.

The Future of Alaskan Independence

There are obstacles in the procurement of Alaskan Independence. First, is the inability of the average individual Alaskan to comprehend the makings of a nation-state. The task looks too large to him.

10. See appendix.

This is primarily due to the individual's conception of government as a necessarily burgeoning bureaucracy. This notion will be overcome only when the individual is convinced that Alaska doesn't need a huge bureaucracy to operate. Persuasion will be difficult as long as one-third of our population remains on some form of government payroll.

In the author's book, Alaska--Energy Lands: The Inside Story, now in press, Dr. Milton Friedman, a Nobel Prize-winning economist said, "In principle there is no reason why an independent Alaska would not be entirely viable and why it could not have great prosperity if it adopted a free-market libertarian government." However, Friedman pointed out that an independent Alaska might move the Alaskans "from the frying pan into the fire." He described his reasoning, "If you look around at countries of Alaska's size which have some element of representative or democratic government, they have almost all invariably gone in for protection, government welfare-state activities, and the like." He compared Taiwan and Hong Kong to The Great Land as an example of this statement.¹¹

Another obstacle to gaining Independence is fear. Unlike Australia, which after some political ceremony, allowed a few wheat farmers in Western Australia to secede and form the Principality of the Hutt River Province, the United States have been known to deal severely with separatists. One only need look to the lessons of Fort Sumter and Wounded Knee. Yet 1980 is not 1860, and peaceful separation has been the rule for most colonies since 1950.

The fear of Alaskan separation from the U.S. is summed up by one Fairbanksan, "If it came to Independence, I don't know if I could go along with it. How would we make it with no allies?"

A Federal worker commented, "Who will protect you from Red China and Russia?" Alaskans are wondering who is protecting them from the Federal bureaucracy.

The advantages of Alaskan Independence seem to outweigh the disadvantages. The general consensus in political quarters world-wide is that the system of governance in the South 48 is out of control.

Specific instances are the inability to deal with the energy crisis, inflation, and the problems Alaskans suffer from as an offshoot of inflation. As these problems escalate, the colonial treatment of Alaska can be expected to get worse. With some 20% of the land, but only two-tenths of a percent of the population of the United States, Alaska will be trampled by the special interests and the Federal bureaucracies. It would behoove The Great Land to break away before it must as a matter of survival.

If Independence can be negotiated, Alaska would come into its own on the international scene. As the United States struggles to

11. Friedman seems to be referring to Alaska's population in this analogy. However, both Taiwan and Hong Kong have several million people each, a great deal more than Alaska's population. To be remembered, moreover, is that many African and Caribbean nations have lesser or similar populations in relation to Alaska.

retain its power, Alaska could rise as a buffer state between the Soviet Union and western hemisphere Free World countries. To fill this role, Alaska would have to be a neutral, yet relatively strong member of western hemisphere defense. A vigorous trade policy would complete the picture.

Further, the United States would have a friendly vote in the U.N. in Alaska. If a member of OPEC, Alaska could help balance out the internal goings-on of that organization in regard to the United States.

For a free world losing sight of the United States as a model for growing democratic nations, Alaska would rise to meet the need.

In the words of Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus, "Alaska has a lot going for it." It sure does.

There is absolutely nothing Alaska cannot grow or build to support itself. The agricultural potential is phenomenal. In addition to its yet untapped agricultural lands, Alaska with its periods of continuous sunlight has a longer growing season than Iowa. Improved technology in greenhouse construction, geothermal energy, and waste heat from pipeline systems could boost that potential even further.

In Alaska's current predicament of restricted mineral exploration and in view of the fact that no comprehensive mineral survey has ever been made of the subcontinent, there is no way to sum up Alaska's mineral potential other than to say "rich." We can reach some kind of estimation by looking at areas adjacent to Alaska where mining proceeds at a brisk pace. There are six operating mines and 24 major mineralized areas in Eastern Siberia. In Western Canada, there are seven operating mines and 35 major mineralized areas. Mining engineers say that the fact Alaska is located between Eastern Siberia and Western Canada indicates that Alaska could now have at least 13 operating mines instead of just the Nome Gold Dredge and the Usibelli Coal Mine.

In the areas of meat and fish production, present-day inquiries have led the state government far afield. The Alaskan fisheries are a major world protein resource. Current projections of Alaska bottom-fisheries potential indicate that Alaska could have an international market in Europe once the effort is launched. While it is doubtful moose and caribou will ever be domesticated enough to provide us with a meat industry, Alaskan game management, rather than game management from 5,000 miles away, could increase the number of these large game animals enough to continue to provide supplemental and subsistence food for our small population. Other large animals, such as reindeer, are already domesticated and could form the basis of a substitute red meat industry in Alaska for world markets.

Lastly, but not least, there is the human resource. Our population is small and Alaskans tend to want to keep it that way. But, our inventiveness and individualism mark us a different breed of cat.

Some say the Alaska Native cultures are dying. Not so. Had it not been for the Native, the Chukotka pioneers would have died out. Their lessons for the non-Native have been incorporated into the mainstream of Alaskan life and are here to stay. The Native culture will be part of the new Nation's customs and distinctiveness. That culture is the vital heat in a land where winter is nine months long. For this reason, Independence-minded Alaskans lean heavily toward

honoring all commitments the U.S. government has made with the Alaska Natives. Perhaps with this foresight, a prominent Native Corporation head has indicated that he is in favor of Independence.

The small businessman may well be king in the new Nation. In essence, every Alaskan is a businessman. In his life, he has had to trade or sell something to make a go of it here. Alaskan self reliance will prevail over the American propensity to dish out government paychecks to feed its population. Alaskans will, no doubt, create a national charter containing provisions for free enterprise and opposing government takeover of the work force.

History is being made here in Alaska now and will continue to be. World events and historic trends constantly shape its destiny. Greenland is becoming independent. Canada's western provinces currently are resisting the cheap sale of petroleum to the eastern provinces. For many years there has been a citizen movement in Canada to ally the western provinces with Alaska. What with the possible vote of separation of the eastern province of Quebec next year, the western provinces may see its own separatist movement as a solution to eastern Canadian exploitation.

Such an alliance would make Alaska the second or third largest nation on the face of the Earth.

Actions in Iran and inside OPEC are weaning the United States of foreign oil dependence. Although higher technology energy sources are promising, the United States have not even begun to devote a concentrated plan to develop those sources with the same dedication accorded the Apollo moon landing program in the sixties. It is evident through statements made by the Carter administration that Alaska is the next spot where the American neo-colonialist mosquito will land. The Alaskan insect is big, but this American variety has been working hard since historic times to place 95% of The Great Land in restrictive land classifications. In the next few years, all Alaskans will be aware of the huge charade of the boomers vs. the greenies battle which raged in Alaska in recent times.

Doing research for Alaska--Energy Lands, the author and her co-authors discovered that many large environmental organizations invest their considerable income in stocks, bonds, and securities. In 1975, the National Audubon Society owned 10,000 shares of Dana Corporation, a manufacturer of truck parts. Also, the Society owned 5,800 shares of International Paper Company, 2,200 shares each of Exxon and Mobil Oil and 300 shares of Caterpillar Tractor Company, makers of the "D-9 Cat." The Society also held a \$250,000 corporate bond on Sohio-BP, one of the principals in the Alyeska Consortium which built the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. The Wilderness Society has stocks and debentures, notes or mortgage bonds on such companies as Standard Oil of California, Arco Pipeline Company, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, J.P. Morgan and Company, Weyerhaeuser and others for a total investment asset picture of \$442,773.

The list of other preservation groups and their alliances with major companies that chop trees and drill oil go on and on. The question comes "Where does the difference between, say, a big oil concern and an environmental group begin and end?" For Alaska there is no difference. As Congressman Don Young has said again and again, "This year it's the environmentalists. Next year it's the rape, ruin,

and run boys."

Our ancestors saw this moment coming. Citizens of Alaska, the colony, are beginning to resist in larger numbers the idea of being the United States' storehouse. Within the next few years, Alaska will begin negotiations with the United States to throw off its "name-only" statehood alias colonial status.

With the Alaskan rugged individualism, the challenge of the land, and our entrance into world politics, the Republic of Alaska will be a reality. With the use of higher technology and the synthesis of Alaskan ideas, that Republic will endure. "North to the Future" will be a world-wide phrase.

APPENDIX

ERNEST GRUENING
7926 W. BEACH DRIVE, N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20012

1/23/74

Dear Joe:

Alaskans for Independence is a natural and praiseworthy reaction to an act of incredible usurpation and invasion of Alaska's rights by Congress and the Interior Department.

But I'm not ready to join yet: not until we have exhausted every effort to undo this outrage. We must settle for nothing less than a total rescission of the 80 million acre provision in the Native Claims Settlement Act, where it had no business whatever to be.

The project is even far worse than it appears to be --like Watergate, increasingly revelations will disclose the monumentalness* of this folly.

My views were set forth in the enclosed letter to the Juneau Chamber of Commerce.

Keep me posted. Let me know what the reactions are to "Alaskans for Independence."

You deserve a medal for starting it.

Cordially yours

Ernest Gruening

* I don't know whether there is such a word. But there ought to be for this monstrosity. So stet.

ERNEST GRUENING

7926 W. BEACH DRIVE, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20012

1/23/74

Dear Joe:

Alashans for Independence is a natural and provisionally reaction to an act of irredeemable usurpation and invasion of Alaska's rights by Congress & the Interior Department.

But I'm not ready to join yet: Not until we have exhausted every effort to undo this outrage. We must settle for nothing less than a total rescission of the 80 million acre ^{provision} in the latest claim settlement act, when it had no business whatever to be.

The project is even far worse than it appears to be - like Watergate, increasingly revelations will disclose the monumentalness of this folly.

My news were set forth in the enclosed letter to the General Chairman of Congress.

Keep me posted. Let me know what the reactions are to "Alashans for Independence"

You deserve a medal for fighting it.

Cordially yours

Ernest Gruening

* I don't know whether there is such a word. But there ought to be for this immorality. So stat.

fairfield

PROCESSING CORPORATION

88 ROSE HILL AVENUE
P.O. DRAWER 1157
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810
(203) 744-2090

May 2, 1979

Mrs. Marylou M. Christenson
SR #50447
5 Mile Chena Hot Springs Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Dear Mrs. Christenson:

Thank you very much for your recent inquiry; we appreciate your interest as we go through great lengths to make POLY-FILO® brand products the finest on the market.

Unfortunately, we are not set up for export. Therefore, we could not ship to any location outside the United States Mainland. Also, our products are so popular in the United States, that it is quite difficult to fill even the requirements of the domestic market.

We, therefore, do not foresee any change in our policy in the near future and regret that we cannot give you a more favorable reply. However, we could ship our goods freight prepaid to any point of embarkation within the boundaries of the United States. This point could be designated by you—it is usually a customs broker.

The customs broker could handle all export formalities, as well as repackaging materials for overseas shipment; freight; storage; etc. Of course, you would have to assume all financial responsibilities after delivery of our goods to the broker.

In the event that you wish to pursue this matter as outlined above, we will be happy to be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

FAIRFIELD PROCESSING



Fred Menkes
Customer Service Manager

FM:ns

P.S. Enclosed please find a POLY-FILO hang tag, which can be easily fastened to your handiwork. These tags are available to you in quantity at no charge, upon request.

Section Two of the Antiquities Preservation Act 16, USC
sec. 431 (1906)

"The President of the U.S. is authorized, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and pre-historic structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the government of the U.S. to be national monuments, and may reserve as a part thereof, parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected. When such objects are situated upon a tract covered by a bona fide unperfected claim or held in private ownership, the tract, or so much thereof, as may be necessary for the proper care and management of the object, may be relinquished to the Government, and the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept the relinquishment of such tracts in behalf of the Government of the U.S."

Rec'd 11/29/79

Hot Words Over the Cold Land by William R. Hunt

The uproar among Alaskans over the Interior Department's classification of lands does not reverberate around the nation. But the fighting is intense with those involved with the struggle in Alaska and in Washington, D.C., although its ramifications are dimly perceived elsewhere.

Huge land dispositions have been an American western phenomenon. If Frenchmen had to confront real estate transactions of comparable scale, the resultant trauma would reduce the land pinching nation to hysteria.

Americans have a different heritage. We can give or take ten million acres without batting an eye. It does not really matter whether sixty, eighty, or one hundred million acres are up for grabs in Alaska. Such quantities of land are meaningless, even when acreage is defined in terms of other states. If the U.S. Park Service wants a chunk the size of Washington and New York, less a New Hampshire sized piece, with maybe the Texas Panhandle shoved in for spice, and leave out a wedge of Rhode Island--it sounds o.k. In fact it sounds like a John Owen recipe.

Our interpretation of the land fight depends upon our particular image of Alaska. Currently there are five major distinct views which derive from regional orientation rather than knowledge or good sense.

Number one: Alaska as seen by Grand Rapids and places like that. "Alaska is cold and far away. Anyone who lives there needs his head examined. But don't give us that underdog talk: you got the oil!"

Number two: Seattle's Alaska. "Alaska is part of our backyard. We understand what you need, probably better than you do yourselves. 'Scoop' has to fix you up with a few parks and refuges. It won't hurt too much. Those ecology boys are pushing hard."

Number three: Alaska of California and New York. "It's about time Alaska did the country some good. What's so bad about a few parks? Anyway, you people have been ripping off the Eskimos for too long. You should be flattered. Don't you realize we can save the nation by protecting your ecosystems?"

Number four: Washington, D.C.'s Alaska. "You can't believe the pressure here. We know Alaska. Things are going to hum when we reassign administrative staff up there to manage the lands. It will mean a big payroll and save you from Wally Hickel and those Teamster bulldozers."

Number five: Alaskan's Alaska. "This is the grossest land grab in history. We pioneered here. Nobody gave a damn, now they want to take our land away. Nobody knows how to protect the environment like we do."

Obviously, these five views could bear further definition and allow for more diversity, but they summarize issues well enough for illustrative purposes.

Now let's get to the crunch. What is the truth about Alaska's situation? Are Congress and Interior doing the right thing?

My personal view, as an Alaskan, is that right and wrong are not really issues. In a better world Congress would find a sensible compromise between the vociferousness of conservationists and the Alaskans who demand opportunities for future development. It may prove that Senator Ted Stevens was correct in believing that Alaskans got the best deal possible under the circumstances with the compromise he and Senator Henry Jackson worked out last spring.

What has really disturbed me about the long debate is the extent to which arguments are based upon misconceptions of national experience. The righteous, arrogant, and evangelistic uses of specious references to "Last Chance," "Last Frontier," and "Lost Wilderness" approach the level of earlier national crusades against booze and reds.

When Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus and others insist that Alaska represents a last chance for America to do things right for the first time, I am alarmed. God help us if we have to depend upon Alaska to save the nation from its past mistakes, or if "doing the right thing" now in Alaska is a panacea for the future. Besides that I worry about Andrus's family sentiments and humility when he argues that our ancestors fouled everything up. And that his duty is to avoid the reproach of his grandchildren. Probably someone has to be sacrificed in bridging generation gaps. Veneration of

ancestors has not recently held a high place in our culture.

Recently Ralph Nader introduced a book entitled The Last Frontier: the Marketing of Alaska (by Hanrahan and Gruenstein) with a remarkable sentence. "It would be tragic not to have our largest state benefit from the full lessons of human experience, only to find itself plunging into the vortex of corporate determinism." Well, all right. If we now have mastered "the full lessons of human experience," the proper disposal of Alaskan lands is a bagatelle. Surely the solutions to our major social and international problems must be near at hand.

The "Last Wilderness" and "Last Frontier" schools are related. Together or independently the phrases are evoked as if they explained something about Alaska.

Years ago in Virgin Land: the American West as Symbol and Myth, Henry Nash Smith explained some complexities of the wilderness in popular consciousness. Our veneration of the wilderness contained the negative doctrine that civilization was wicked, and the positive doctrine that untouched nature is a source of strength, truth, and virtue. True or not, these doctrines have dominated in western literature. Closely related to the wilderness symbol is the Myth of the Garden, the Jeffersonian ideal of the sturdy, self-sufficient farmer who sustains democracy. Sometimes the Wilderness and Garden symbols conflicted. Was Daniel Boone the standard-bearer of civilization on the frontier, or the child of nature fleeing into the wilderness before the advance of settlement? The duality caused some confusion; yet we needed both images, and western heroes had to accommodate both requirements. It worked pretty well because we had free roving trappers expressing their untrammelled freedom in the vanguard while settlers followed behind to create the Garden.

Everything was going well until historian Frederick Jackson Turner in 1893 announced that the frontier was closed. Although he was optimistic, others deplored the vanishing of free land. Now both symbols were in jeopardy: no more wilderness for our innocent primitivism, and no more free land for development by individuals. And it was not as if Americans were much more enchanted with cities and industrialization in the nineties than they are today.

So what did they do? Did they accept vast Alaska as an interrupted extension of the frontier? Indeed not. They stampeded for gold in person or in literature, and then tucked Alaska away somewhere. It was too cold and desolate even as a ground for wilderness adventures, and certainly it was no Garden.

Now we are told that Alaska is "our last wilderness." A wilderness is good, and presumably, gardens are bad.

I suppose people within and outside of Alaska can have conceptions of wilderness without doing any harm. The problem is in determining the number of acres needed to satisfy the collective wilderness longing. My own needs are very modest, but it may not be easy to give everyone in the nation his own exclusive wilderness. Some may have to rely upon the wilderness of their minds.

The "Last Frontier" expression is no more helpful than "Last Wilderness" as a guide to meaning about Alaska. The term "frontier" suggests the familiar pattern of settlement and development followed by other regions of the West as people flowed in and transportation linked them to the nation. Alaska did not follow this pattern. From the mid-18th to the late 19th century it remained a fur and fish colony. Briefly the gold boom gave the region's development the look of other frontiers, but as mineral production declined so did settlement. Neither agricultural, cattle, or any other industry developed to maintain growth. Profits from fisheries went to Seattle and San Francisco with the salmon, and even most of the cannery labor was imported seasonally. It took World War II defense construction to end the decline and spark new growth.

This boom and bust cycle accounts for the attitude of many Alaskans. Except when outside capital flowed in to exploit a resource, residents depended upon government payrolls. Traditionally citizens have longed for sustained development and clamored for means to keep some of the gains in the region.

Alaskans are not keen on a development which would reproduce New Jersey, nor is there any likelihood of it. Yet they are aware that the closure of land to development can prohibit a post-oil boom development. North Slope oil will not flow forever and thus far Gulf of Alaska explorations have not been encouraging. Now, for the

first time since the gold era, the state has an economic base in petroleum. When production stops, where will the next boom come from? Climate, distances, and costs will remain constants as inhibiting factors to development. If minerals or other resources are not found in sufficient quantity to justify the tremendous costs of production and transportation to market, Alaska will bust once more.

Within this historic framework the land use issue becomes very touchy. It is national land and the nation can dispose of it as it wishes, but it is not unreasonable to leave opportunities for some kinds of development on lands not reserved for special uses or protection.

A steady economic base would be a good thing for Alaska and the nation. Few of us can live off the undeveloped land, and neither a federal payroll nor a federal dole attracts everyone. Either we work here or go back to Seattle or Grand Rapids. There is little other choice.

Once we bannish all fuzziness of the "Lost Frontier" imagery with its echoes of innocence, a pristine nature, and manly virtues, we might begin to assess the region intelligently. Jack London fixed a strong image of the North in his books, and it is not too useful to the nation today. London passed through Alaska as swiftly as the Yukon River current permitted after his short sojourn in the Klondike, and we should not be transfixed by whatever romance his gifted pen created. Save his books, for heaven's sakes, but resource policies should emerge from colder calculations.

If patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel, calling up the last or lost frontier, or wilderness, is the recourse of the woolly-minded. For decades Alaska has been a predominately urban society hungering for substantial economic development. Now it has development and some new problems. Environmental protection is one of these, and it may seem a relief to turn from the Southwest's water shortage, or from New York's many travails, to the ripping up of Arctic tundra. But if Alaska causes alarm and does not teach us anything, and if we cannot gain any perspective on the national experience, the change of scene contributes little.

For years writers and government investigators have been re-discovering the "last frontier." More recently the writing trend is to lose the Alaskan frontier as an incident to finding it. It must frustrate Americans who have not been too keenly aware of Alaska to learn suddenly that the "last frontier" is lost. It is not lost--or last--or even a frontier.

But right now it is a battleground. The struggle is not between good guys and bad guys. There is some legitimacy on each side of the development-conservationist debate. Alaskans have no "right" to a land settlement which meets their dreams. And conservationists need not talk about "doing things right" as if they have understood the nation's history accurately, and understood Alaska's relation to their hopes for the future. They can reflect on their power since their misconceptions and propaganda fill some need of the nation's soul.

Doc 11/21/77

The Question of the State Income Tax

by Claus-M. Naske

The dramatic increases in the price of petroleum have given the state treasury an unexpected windfall, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars. Close on the heels of the announcements that the state treasury would enjoy surplus funds have come demands for the abolition of the state income tax. Such proposals, on the surface, sound great. Who, in his right mind, would oppose lower taxes or no taxes at all. What most proponents seemingly ignore is the fact that oil income is a one-shot deal. Alaska boasts of the massive Prudhoe Bay field, destined to decline in the 1980s, and declining Cook Inlet oil fields. No replacements are in sight. Yet state spending has become dangerously dependent on oil revenues. Less and less services are paid for from general taxes. This is an unhealthy trend. Furthermore, while abolishing a general system of taxation may be easy, adopting one is extremely difficult. The history of tax reform in Alaska certainly illustrates this.

In the late 1930s territorial Governor John W. Troy had asked the territorial planning council to make a tax study. The research was not completed until the fall of 1940. The research concluded that an annual revenue of \$10,000,000 was entirely feasible. They recommended the adoption of a modern tax system, and urged that the revenue obtained be invested in a soundly planned and economically executed program of permanent improvements such as roads, schools, hospitals, and public buildings. Ernest Gruening, Troy's successor, enthusiastically endorsed these proposals, made them his own, and

fully intended to push them through the legislature. The plan the governor presented to the 1941 legislature for adoption would abolish all obsolete mercantile taxes and license fees, imposing instead a very moderate income and profits tax, plus a nominal levy on property outside of incorporated towns.

Governor Gruening, however, had waded into deep water with his proposal for a streamlined tax system. The scheme immediately mobilized the ever-alert economic interests, such as the canning and mining industries who were in no mood to relinquish their privileged status in Alaska. Many residents, depending for a livelihood on these industries, were unwilling to antagonize them. These feelings were reflected in the mood of the legislature which flatly rejected the governor's tax proposals in every legislative session between 1941 and 1947.

Gruening called a special session of the legislature to convene in March 1946. The purpose was to have measures enacted designed to aid Alaska's veterans. Meeting for thirty days, the legislators passed most of Gruening's proposals. And although the governor was pleased, he was alarmed by a senate memorial which asked the President and the new Secretary of the Interior, Julius A. Krug, "to remove the present governor from office with all possible dispatch." It passed the senate by a vote of nine to six. Thereupon Steve McCutcheon, a Gruening supporter in the house, introduced a long memorial praising Gruening unqualifiedly. It passed by a vote of sixteen to seven. "The opposition," Gruening confided to E. L. "Bob" Bartlett, Alaska's Delegate to Congress, "are going to do everything to smear me in Washington."

Bartlett, however, reassured the governor that he "should not attach any particular importance to any Senate memorial so far as its influence here (Washington, D.C.) is concerned."

Complaints about the governor, however, trickled into Washington. Walter P. Sharpe, the territorial Commissioner of the Department of Labor told Robert E. Hennegan, the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, that the governor had done everything to split the Democratic Party in Alaska. "Put in anyone, but get rid of this 'pinko' who has no ties in Alaska," Sharpe counseled. The commissioner essentially resented the fact that Gruening made appointments based on ability rather than party affiliation. But despite sniping from various quarters, the governor survived in office. When talk about his replacement once again revived late in 1947, Bartlett persuaded Robert S. Allen of the Boston Daily Globe to analyze Gruening's predicament. Such an article, Bartlett hoped, might help to force the president's hand. On January 30, 1948, the Globe carried the piece entitled "Next on List of New Dealers to be Dropped by Truman?" Allen stated that Gruening, one of the few Roosevelt appointees still holding high office, had only an outside chance of being reappointed for another term. "As of now," Allen claimed, "President Truman does not intend to rename Gruening." That could change, however, continued Allen, because the governor had strong Alaskan backing as well as powerful administration support both in and out of Congress, including "equally powerful Democratic opposition," most of it centered in Washington State, particularly in Seattle. For years the governor had been at loggerheads with Seattle business and transportation interests, accusing them of exploiting the territory like a colonial possession. Washington's Governor

Mon Walgren and Nick Bez, Seattle shipping and fishing magnate, both Truman cronies, led the opposition to Gruening. The president faced a dilemma, Allen concluded, for he needed West Coast support in the upcoming election. Replacing Gruening, however, would upset the New Dealers whose support he needed as well.

It may have been the piece in the Globe which prodded Secretary Krug to see the president and urge the reappointment. In any event, on March 12, Truman sent Gruening's name to the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee for confirmation. Bartlett was happy. "I won't forget ever," he told Krug, "that you went to the White House today and successfully urged President Truman to reappoint our friend, Ernest Gruening, as Governor of Alaska. It was a noble stroke of work." Unhappily, however, an informal poll of the committee revealed that the Republican majority favored "pigeonholing action until after the November election." One Republican member of the committee succinctly summed up majority opinion. "Why should we give a Democrat--and an ardent New Deal Democrat at that--a four year term when after the Presidential election we could put in a good Republican?"

Territorial Republicans were not satisfied with mere delays. The Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, owned by Alaska's foremost entrepreneur 'Cap' Austin E. Lathrop, long a Gruening opponent, urged that the governor be denied a third term. Lathrop argued that Gruening had enjoyed ample opportunities to prove himself as governor of Alaska yet he had failed. Instead of fostering a sound legislative program for Alaska during the last five sessions of the legislature, he had "tried to promote tax legislation which was not acceptable" to the

legislators. As a result, the territory's finances "are now as near complete disorganization as they have ever been." Even more disturbing, biennial territorial appropriations had increased from a modest \$3,511,510 in the 1939-1940 period, the last before Gruening took office, to a record \$8,476,309 appropriation passed by the last legislature. In short, Gruening had attempted "to use the power and prestige of his office and the resources of the federal government to transfer to himself the initiative and law-making powers of the citizens." Lathrop left unclear how the governor had appropriated to himself all of these powers. In fact, Lathrop's editorial was transparently self-serving, for he was a chief beneficiary of Alaska's totally inadequate tax system. His many enterprises, ranging from banks to motion picture theaters, and from construction companies to a coal mine paid only negligible taxes to the territory.

In any event, the anti- and pro-Gruening forces quickly lined up for battle. While Lathrop urged his friends and associates to communicate their opposition to the Senate committee, the pro-Gruening forces similarly gathered support. Lathrop, for example, praised territorial senator Chas. D. Jones for the fine letter he had written to U.S. Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, a member of the committee considering Gruening's confirmation. Lathrop was convinced that a sufficient number of protests had reached the Senators to convince them that "right or wrong, he (Gruening) has engendered so much bitterness and dissension in the Territory that very little of a constructive nature can be expected until there is a new governor." Foremost among Gruening's friends, Bartlett solicited support.

Among many others, for example, he asked the Rt. Reverend John S. Bentley of the National Council of Protestant Churches to lend his ehlp in the impending confirmation struggle. Despite all the efforts, Senator Hugh Butler (R., Neb.) decided to allow Gruening's unconfirmed nomination to die.

In the meantime, however, territorial finances had run into trouble. On December 31, 1948, the general fund contained only \$6,289.40 and the auditor held legitimate claims against the territory amounting to \$758,209.59. It was only through individual and corporate pledges of \$200,000 of interest free loans, for example, that the doors of the University of Alaska had been kept open. Earlier on, the governor had rejected pleas for calling a special session, hoping that angry citizens would vote delinquent legis a-tors out of office. Gruening's hopes were largely fulfilled when Alaskans trooped to the polls in October and "threw the rascals out." At that point, the governor summoned the newly-elected body, not the lameduck legislature, into special session. Its only task was to consider the tax bills which territorial Attorney General Ralph Rivers had prepared in his capacity as legislative counsel. From the extraordinary session which convened on January 6, 1949, and the regular one which followed on January 24, there emerged, at long last, a basic tax system.

The first element of the new system consisted of a territorial income tax based on ten percent of the federal tax. A property tax of one percent was credited against the municipal and school district assessments, thus avoiding duplication. At the same time the territorial legislature took over and streamlined the old system of license

fees from the federal government. For each separate business an initial application fee of \$25 was charged. Beyond the initial fee, a sum equal to one-half percent above \$100,000 received during the income year were to be remitted to the territory. This levy applied to those concerns which, so far, had paid no monies whatever to the Alaska territorial government. These included steamship companies, air and bus lines, lighterage companies, banks and motion picture theaters, oil and construction companies, garage and service stations, newspapers, radio stations, and logging operations. Professional registration, examination and insurance levies were to be collected by the various professional boards. The legislature changed the tax on the fishing industry from a case tax to one based on the wholesale value of the pack, amounting to four percent of the value of the raw fish processed for salmon canneries to one percent of the value of raw fish for herring processing plants. Fishermen's license fees increased from \$1 to \$5 for residents, and from \$25 to \$50 for nonresidents. Fishing gear, such as traps, gill nets, and seines were also taxed. Excise taxes on liquor were raised, and establishments serving alcohol were regulated by fees which varied from \$75 to \$5,000, according to the type of business, the size of the town, or the volume of the business. In addition, the usual motor fuel taxes, vehicle and drivers' licenses and tobacco and various other miscellaneous taxes were modernized.

Gruening was jubilant, and understandably so. It had been a long battle, finally crowned with victory. The special interests were furious. When word reached Alaska that Senator Joseph O'Mahoney (D., Wy.), the new chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular

Affairs, intended to hold hearings on Gruening's confirmation, a number of former legislators asked the committee to postpone any action until the territorial legislature had adjourned. Residents of Alaska, they maintained, should be given an opportunity "to present evidence and data supporting contention of many substantial citizens of territory that present governor's policies not only definitely destructive to territorial development but will almost stop flow of badly needed investment capital from stateside sources." These disgruntled ex-legislators also asserted that the "present session being quarterbacked by governor is travesty of American tradition and legislative procedure." But despite heated opposition, the Senate confirmed Gruening's nomination for another year.

Rec'd 11/29/79

TO: Future Frontiers
308 G Street, Suite 301
Anchorage, AK 99501

I would like the Alaska State Legislature to consider broadening the scope of the current Alaska Council on Science and Technology and to provide sufficient annual funding to meet more of the unique research needs of the state.

I would urge that the scope of the current Council be broadened, inclusive of the social sciences, the arts and humanities. The Council on Science and Technology was created to meet the unique research needs of the state in science and technology, as such information is indeed necessary for guiding the public policy and assisting the state's decision-making. I believe there are research questions in the humanities, the arts and social sciences which are of equal and vital importance to the state and which should be state supported.

As one who is involved in education, I am aware of the disadvantage researchers from our state encounter when applying for national research funds. Even when the national funding coffers are full, Alaska researchers have a difficult time justifying research expenses to proposal reviewers who know little of the state's needs nor of the costs of doing business in this part of the world. Nationally funded research is presumed to benefit large numbers of people directly and at little cost; these conditions, while appropriate in Lower 48 settings, are virtually impossible for us to meet in a state with a small population and high costs. Additionally, the benefits of research in Alaska are oftentimes unique and not applicable to the other states, diluting the possibilities of federal financing.

I believe that our state could benefit from according the social sciences, the arts and the humanities with the recognition as areas of importance in state-funded research.

Thank you.

Ronald K. Inouye

Ronald K. Inouye
3036 Riverview Dr.
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Buy Alaskan Committee

4604 BUSINESS PARK BLVD.
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503

Rec'd 11/29/79

Co-Chairman:

Senator George Hohman
Representative Russ Meekins
Future Frontiers
308 G Street, Suite 301
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

November 26, 1979

Gentlemen:

The Buy Alaskan Committee is dedicated to promote Alaskan Businesses to Alaskans. Unfortunately, Alaskan Businesses are in a bad state of affairs, as is graphically illustrated by the following:

1. High unemployment
2. Record numbers of business failures
3. Slumping realstate sales
4. High business space vacancies
5. More families moving out of the state than into it

One of the solutions to the problem is for ALL Alaskans to purchase goods and services within the state whenever possible. When we say ALL Alaskans, we definitely include state and local governments.

Right now, the State of Alaska is legally spending tens of millions of dollars for goods and services outside of the state, which could and should be spent in Alaska. We would like to emphasize that these purchases within the state would support payrolls, inventories, warehouses, office space, vehicles, and taxes of all types.

While we realize that some goods and services are not available locally, the large majority ARE available on a very competitive basis right here in Alaska.

Several state agencies are also abusing their purchasing regulations by specifying "sole source" and "convenience" purchases that are not within the bounds of the law. Several of these instances have appeared in the newspapers recently.

A very good bill already exists that would correct many of these problems. Last year Senate Bill 114 was approved by the Senate by a margin of 17 - 2. The bill now rests with the House of Representatives Finance Committee.

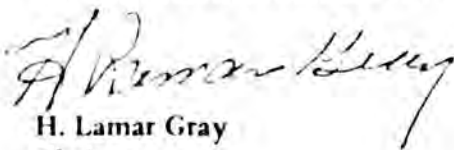
We were hopeful that the bill would be approved by the House during the 1979 session, but the last minute rush to pass the budget prevented the bill from being considered.

Gentlemen, we urge you to support and promote the Alaskan Businessman through Senate Bill 114. The sooner the bill is passed, the sooner the Alaskan business community and the citizens of Alaska will enjoy the benefits of doing increased business with the State of Alaska.

May we count on your support?

Sincerely,

BUY ALASKAN COMMITTEE



H. Lamar Gray
Chairman

11/28/79
Thor Brandt-Erichsen
P.O. Box 1766
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

November 29, 1979

Future Frontiers
308 G Street, Suite 301
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Gentlemen:

In response to your call for "papers" dealing with Alaskan issues worth addressing, the status of mineral development, its contribution to providing employment and a program of evaluating the economic potential of Alaska's mineral wealth in a cost-effective, timely manner comes to mind. To be specific, for the purposes of this paper, mineral development pertains only to the exploration, extraction and utilization of naturally occurring metallic and non-metallic mineral substances, excluding hydrocarbon constituents of the earth's crust.

Historically, at a time when modern day geology, geophysics and geochemistry were yet to emerge as scientific tools for mineral development, Alaska presented a romantically enticing place to forage for gold, when the price was less than \$20 per troy ounce. The history of gold mining in Alaska is rich in the tales of men enduring the hardships of life in a primitive setting, when transportation of supplies and machinery entailed months and years of endeavor instead of our air freight methods used today.

Lifestyles, scientific methods, and mineral prices have changed markedly since those historic days of mining on the beach in Nome, in the Iditarod district, at Kennecott and in the many other mineralized areas of common knowledge throughout the state.

As a matter of record, Exhibit A, attached hereto includes a summary of "Trends of mineral production of Alaska, 1890-1939" from U.S.G.S. Bulletin 926-A, "The Mineral Industry of Alaska in 1939," as well as a figure depicting "Annual value of all mineral production--Alaska 1900-1965" from State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mines and Minerals Report for the Year 1965.

As an 18-year resident of Alaska, I have personally witnessed our population growth as well as economic change, and the growth in the metallic mineral mining industry has not paralleled the state's growth in other areas. It is my opinion, based on 18 years of observation,

that Alaska represents a storehouse of mineral wealth large enough to provide the Lower 48 states with raw materials to keep their economy rolling along, despite mineral shortfalls elsewhere in the world.

Repeatedly, I have asked myself the question: "If Alaska has this mineral wealth, why are there not more active mining enterprises providing employment for our citizens and helping develop a self-sufficient, stable economy in Alaska?" The only answer that comes to me is that the proper environment, incentive and utilization of available knowledge is not currently being provided by the Alaska Legislature.

Problems in the area of mineral development have been well publicized. Currently the most difficult area deals with land ownership, the D-2 issues and environmental vs. development considerations. It seems foolish to me that the land issue has ballooned out of proportion, when parties concerned with the issues have not inventoried the land on a broad and detailed basis as to its mineral composition and potential for economic mineral development.

The earth's crust is basically composed of only nine elements--namely oxygen, silicon, aluminum, iron, calcium, sodium, potassium, magnesium and titanium, which all together represent 99.25 per cent of the rock globe we call our world.* The 3/4 of one per cent of the crust remaining represents all the other elements available to man. My view is that 3/4 of one per cent of the rock mass in Alaska is of vital economic value to mankind, and particularly to United States citizens and Alaska residents. Therefore, I feel it is urgent that a complete geological inventory is undertaken throughout the state at the soonest possible time.

Since private industry has shown a reluctance to pursue this endeavor due to lack of economic incentive, and the Federal Government seems more anxious to dwell on hydrocarbon resources within Alaska's borders, while environmentalists would prefer not to learn the truth about economic values at stake in the vast Alaska wilderness, the result has been a continuing lack of precise knowledge in the area of Alaska's economic mineral potential.

As a solution to this problem, and an aid toward expediting the receipt of a realistic assessment of Alaska's land, I propose that the Alaska Legislature proceed to set up a corporation for the purpose of carrying out mineral exploration in the State of Alaska, with the right to participate with others in mine exploration and

development, and to participate in bringing properties into production.

The organization of this corporation should have a guaranteed annual budget from the Alaskan Legislature in the neighborhood of 2 or 3 million dollars per year for a period of at least 10 years. Future production agreements could undoubtedly repay this venture capital.

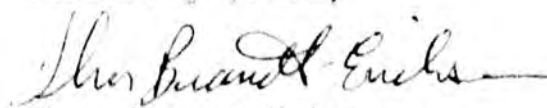
This is not a new concept. The provincial government of Quebec formed such a corporation in 1965 under the name "Quebec Mining Exploration Co. (SOQUEM)" and has continued to this day with marked success.**

With this approach, the vast exposures of precambrian rock in Alaska could be thoroughly examined through geochemical means, as well as more detailed exploration of the mineral-rich provinces in the state that have yet to see diamond drill core sampling beyond a depth of 200 feet, when Outside there are active mines that go well below 800 feet below sea level.

This proposal is presented with the hope that a detailed examination of its potential will be immediately undertaken by our state legislators in an effort to pursue the future of a self-sufficient, viable economy for our state.

My interest and expertise in the area of mineral exploration is derived from the study of geology at the University of California at Santa Barbara and more than a decade of prospecting in the Alaska bush.

Sincerely yours,


Thor Brandt-Erichsen

References:

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27 Bloor Street, Toronto 2, Ontario

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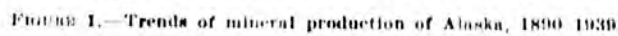
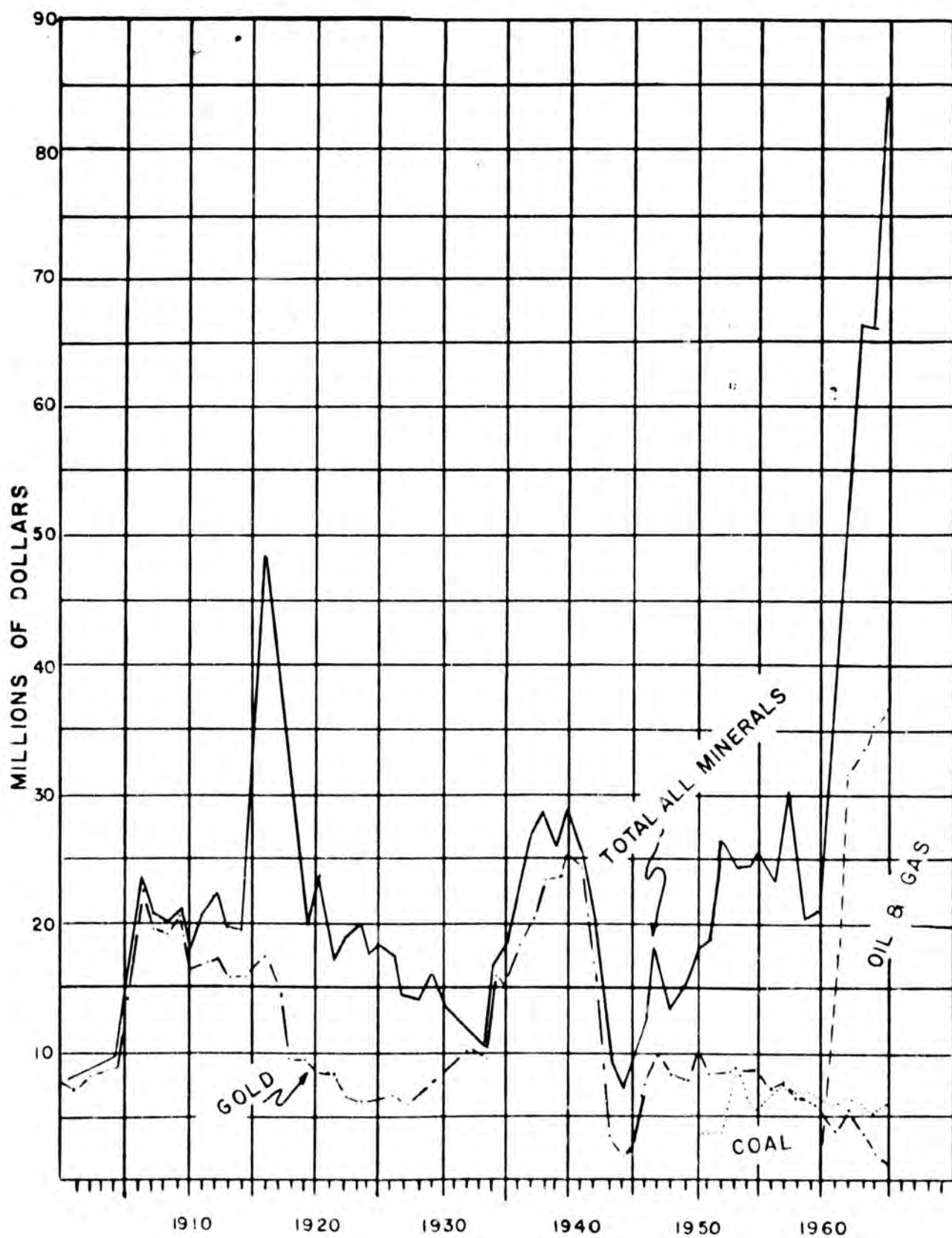


Figure 1 - Annual Value of All Mineral Production - Alaska 1900 - 1965



Rec. M/20/79

7111 East 20th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99504
November 26, 1979

Future Frontiers
308 "G" Street, Suite 301
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

ATTENTION: Senator Hohman and Representative Meekins

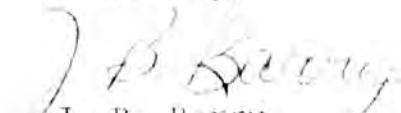
Dear Sirs,

Former Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph Callifano stated the cost of health care in the United States is rising at the rate of one million dollars an hour. The costs will double and re-double in the coming decade of the '80s according to the estimate of the former Secretary.

The figures reflect "private" medical care. The high cost of getting sick in America.

The following chart and presentation will show the private sector falls far behind in costs when the State or bureaucracy assumes the administration of care to a handicapped individual.

Sincerely,


J. B. Barry
337-6718

BASIC COST OF CARE EXCLUDING MEDICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Program and Location	Number of clients	Ages	Locations	S.S.I. and Aid to Disabled/mo.	Cost of Care Per client Per day	Cost of Care Per client Per month	Cost of Care Per client Per year	Cost of Care Per year x Total served	Presently on Waiting List
Hope Cottage Anchorage	18	over 18	8	\$334	\$42	\$1,594	\$19,128	\$344,304	
Hope Cottage	24	under 18	6	\$220	\$44	\$1,540	\$18,480	\$445,520	50
Hope Cottage Foster Care	15					\$402	\$6,030	\$72,360	
Hope Cottage Intermediate Care Facility	30	under 18	2		\$100*	\$3,000	\$36,000	\$1,080,000	4
Harborview Valdez	92	all ages	1		\$100*	\$3,000	\$36,000	\$3,312,000	0
Satellite Home Program Anchorage	3	all ages				\$1,075	\$12,900	\$38,700	60
Dev. Center Anchorage	45	under 18	1		paid by parent				0
a) Day Care									
b) 24 hour Respite	8	under 18	1		\$65	\$1,950	\$23,400	\$187,200	0

*Funding is based on I.Q. It averages \$140 to \$160 per day according to figures compiled by Satellite Home Program.

THE REAL COST OF OUT-OF-HOME CARE

The State of Alaska taxpayers could save a minimum of \$10,000 a month if the resident population of each Hope Cottage and Harborview were reduced by ONE. This is a minimum of \$120,000 a year. These figures reflect only the basic cost of care.

The \$10,000 does not include Medicaid, (another taxpayer expense) the burgeoning bureaucracy deemed necessary to administer to a handicapped individual or the special education expenses incurred by students from other school districts being placed in Anchorage or Valdez.

Currently at Harborview Developmental Center in Valdez, the State operated institution for the mentally retarded, 92 clients are served. In FY 78, 136 positions were funded for Harborview at \$5,566,800! That's over \$60,000 in salaries per client!

The \$5,000,000 is above and beyond the daily amount charged for the care of each resident, funds derived from Supplemental Security Income, Aid to the Disabled (more taxes) or any of the other extras listed. (still more taxes)

Additionally, Hope Cottages, Inc. maintains 14 cottages. These cottages need houseparents. Two additional cottages require houseparents and twenty four hour nursing care. There is also an administration building on Bering Street. To provide a more "home like" atmosphere, Hope is constructing two new 10 bed intermediate care facilities to replace an existing 20 bed facility.

Who pays for the upkeep, maintenance, the purchasing and building of all these physical plants? WE DO. Either by taxes or direct contributions, it's all coming out of the same pocket.

A good example to consider is the Satellite Home Program. They place only moderate to severely handicapped individuals presently residing in institutions. They pay \$1,075 per month to foster parents. Fantastic savings to the taxpayers compared to the tremendous cost of institutionalization. Sounds too good to be true, doesn't it?

It is true, but there is a major flaw. The program has been in operation for three years and has placed only three individuals. Three in three years!

It is safe to assume the level of payment to foster parents has remained constant in three years. Want to bet the administrative costs of the program have remained the same?

When I mentioned the possibility of giving the \$1075 to the biological parents to enable them to take their child out of the institution, it was greeted by the administrators with an abundance of silence. However, assurances were made that as soon as the foster network was perfected, the very next step would be home placements. At the rate they have established in the last three years, not many of us will still be on this earth to see it happen, nor will the royalty oil payments be here.

WHY IS CARING FOR THE HANDICAPPED SO LUCRATIVE?

Like too many aspects of government or welfare programs, the situation concerning the retarded and handicapped and its terrible consequent costs to the taxpayers, families, children and society evolved from the humanitarian ideal to provide care for the disadvantaged.

Follow the ludicrous evolution. First, lacking support services for the family, the child must be placed in an institution. Level one is created. The institutions are filling up.

Create a network of mini-institutions and call them "group homes". The public has an impression of the handicapped in a cozy home like setting and they just "eat up" that idea. Level two is created.

Now the bureaucrats are really getting somewhere. If "group homes" went over so great with the public, let's try foster homes. Take people out of "group homes" and put them in "for real" homes. One child per home. What a novel idea! John Q. Public falls all over himself applauding the concept. The bureaucrats are delirious! Level three is created.

Now they sit back and maintain nothing could possibly be missing from this plan of total and complete care for the handicapped.

THE IMPACT OF OUT-OF-HOME CARE ON THE FAMILY UNIT

Oh yes, the family. That pesky group of folks that have given hard working bureaucrats headaches and ulcers from day one. This very same group even has the audacity to demand the needs of their child take precedence over form filling and paperwork. Therefore, a plan must be perfected to put these pests in their rightful place--out of our hair!

First we place the institution so remote physically that it will be a real hardship to drive or fly to. (e.g. Valdez) The hotel rooms in the town would be \$56 a day. Of course, in the winter the rooms are only \$48 but that would be no major problem. The drive in the winter would be so hazardous, few would ever attempt it.

For those hardy souls that do make it to the institution on a winter weekend, we will make sure only substitute administrative personnel will be on duty. These people would know nothing of the weekday activities of the child and would write down all the parent's questions for us to answer by mail in due time.

To further discourage these family ties, there would be no private room available at the institution for visits. If they want to be alone with the child, let them take him or her to their hotel. If their room happens to be on the second floor of a hotel without an elevator and their child is 105 pounds and non-ambulatory, that's their problem, not the administration's.

They are welcome to visit in the resident hall. These parents realize what personal contact means to their child or else they wouldn't be there making pests of themselves. Why should they, of all people, begrudge the other twenty residents of that hall pulling, shoving and clammoring for their attention? Those other children need affection too, you know.

By really trying, we can make these parental visits so stressful they will soon cease altogether. The State can not bother with parental feelings of guilt, frustration, loneliness or anxiety. We have our priorities. We must make sure an increase in funding makes it through the Legislature this session.

Disgusting scenario, isn't it? It happens very day across the United States. Alaska is no exception and may very well be the leader.

The dehumanizing effect of institutions transcends the family to the child. The child is rewarded for following the "pack". Any individuality becomes "unacceptable" behavior. Children must fit the molds established by the institution. The change from the child the parents knew to the "institution child" adds to the stress and sense of failure to the parents. All their work with their child ends up with "proper, regimented institutional behavior".

Some parents turn to alcohol to ease the pain. Others block emotionally all reference to the child ever having been in their lives. Still others, unable to stand the combined strain any longer, get divorced.

Oh, but wait, you say! What about "group homes" close to the parents? That way the parents could have the child on weekends and holidays. How would you like such visitation rights with your child? Ask the thousands of divorced parents with these very rights about their frustrations. How many eventually stop the visits and the monthly checks usually stop shortly thereafter. Anyone can check the welfare rolls for verification.

The child has become a visitor to the life they once lived, confused and disoriented by two sets of people and two different locations.

What to do then?

THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION TO OUT-OF-HOME CARE

It should be fixed in the mind of every taxpayer that institutions and "group homes" are outrageously expensive and definitely deficient alternatives to home care and not vice versa.

The absurdity of foster placements must be made absolutely clear. How can money and support services be given to complete strangers for care of a child without even the slightest thought given to the parents?

No amount of training can teach a foster parent the subtle nuances of a child's behavior that signal an impending ear infection, the cutting of a new tooth or the beginnings of discomfort with a too snug orthopedic brace. The parallel would be a new baby's cry. The parents can tell if the baby is wet, hungry, scared or just lonely. To the outsider, it all sounds like squalling.

Perhaps all families are not able to care for their child in the home. No one knows. No one has ever cared enough to ask. It has become "against the system" to keep the family intact. Out of home care has become the first, not the last, alternative.

The following is a true story of what happened to an Anchorage family.

After 12 years of struggle in a system that harks you to "Walk For Hope", give to the less fortunate, support this, support that, etc., etc., ad infinitum, there comes a day you can no longer cope. To reach this point you can no longer do it alone, emotionally, physically or financially.

You call Hope Cottage. The only person who can help you with your questions is out of the office. He will return your call.

A very nice man tells you he will send a packet of forms to fill out and return. He then asks you about your child. You hear yourself reciting the terms you have heard and used for 12 years.

A 105 pound, 12 year old Caucasian female, multi-handicapped from Rubella Syndrome, including mental retardation, cerebral palsy, seizure disorder in the right hemisphere, non ambulatory without the aid of orthopedic appliances.

No matter how many times you have used this description, it always strikes you as an odd way to describe your beautiful, loving daughter whos one misfortune in life was being born of a mother that contracted German measles.

The nice man expresses surprise that you have kept your child in the home for such an extended period of time. However, since your daughter is non-ambulatory, there are only two cottages that could help her but--those two are full, of course. You will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting period? Six weeks to two years.

In desperation you cry out at this complete stranger. You tell him you can't make it another six weeks or two years. You need help now or you wouldn't be calling. One doesn't plan two years in advance for the day of desperation to get in!

He suggests the foster home program run by Clyde Farrington and Harborview in Valdez. You thank him quietly and hang up. You feel

like a fool for breaking down to a complete stranger. You mentally kick yourself for losing control and pick up the phone again.

You call Clyde first because you have known him for a long time. Your daughter was his first student when he came to Alaska on a Vision and Hearing Impairment Grant your organization had helped to secure. When a parents group was formed for the V.H.I. children, you were the first one called to lead it. You attended conferences on leadership, coping, advocacy and assertiveness on behalf of the group. Your home was the overnight hotel for out of state conferees to Anchorage workshops, parent advocates and special education people. Your relationship was expanded and ongoing with Clyde, not just the typical parent-teacher one.

He comes on the phone and expounds on the Satellite Home Program. Being such a fantastic program, there is a waiting list of 35 at that time. When you express shock at the program being around for three years and you never hearing about it the reply is simple. Their thrust is to get children out of institutions and into homes. You reply your thrust is to keep your child out of the institution and in the home.

Impasse established. No precedent for operating in such a logical manner. Not enough public support salaries will be generated if this revolutionary idea of home care catches on.

Out comes the phone book again. You call everyone in town who has been to or knows anything at all about Harborview. The opinions vary: never been there, too far away, better than it used to be, it's clean, an insane asylum, good school program, and nice place to visit but--.

The people you have spoken to are parents, legislators, advocates and medical professionals. The questions take on new meaning to all of them for they have witnessed your struggle all those years. So they answer your questions and they express regret that no alternatives are available.

You make the trip to Valdez already feeling the loneliness. You hold your daughter close, stroke her hair, memorize her every move and you cry.

But none of this prepares you for the trip home. The uncontrollable weeping as each mile takes you that much farther from your little girl. The opening of the door to a house that used to be a home. The bed she slept in two nights ago. Scattered toys. An idle rocking chair. Stuffed animals awaiting her return.

You take it a painful day at a time, knowing eventually the pain will have to lessen. The confusion on the faces of friends not knowing what to say when they realize she is home. The stammering

of the person who says "She's better off there with her own kind" when they see the crushed look that lightly tossed remark has caused. So you see, the real cost of institutionalization and the destruction of a family unit does indeed become most expensive to everyone concerned.

Let's put the astronomical waste inherent in this system aside. Take the \$1075 a month presently being given to strangers and offer it to the parents of children in institutions, group homes or on waiting lists. Let them purchase the services required to keep their child home. The money will be spent more efficiently by a caring parent than a paper pushing bureaucrat.

The most expensive institution care is for a multi-handicapped, non-ambulatory child. This care tilts the cash register at a minimum of \$36,000 a year for basic costs excluding medical. There is at least one family in Anchorage that would use the money to purchase a van with a hydraulic lift, drive Thompson Pass in the dead of winter and bring their child home. That one purchase by this family would save the taxpayers of Alaska over \$23,000 that year. The other benefits speak eloquently alone.

For the parents of the marginally or moderately handicapped, this money might provide enough income to allow a parent to stay home without wrecking the family budget. This in turn would provide the continuing support and encouragement needed for their children to become young adults with the self-confidence and abilities to hold jobs in our community. These young adults break the cycle. They become tax payers instead of tax burdens.

We don't need high priced consultants to figure out how to do this or to tell us "it should be done". There is a wealth of free talent here in Anchorage. The parents of the handicapped are doctors, attorneys, accountants, insurance agents, labor leaders. They have volunteered their time before and will be glad to do so again.

CONCLUSION

We can no longer afford to allow institutions, "group homes" or foster programs to flourish behind the banner of "helping those unable to help themselves"! Preying on the sympathies of the public has been too lucrative for too long. This vicious cycle of waste for out of home care must be stopped. The taxpayers can no longer be over burdened with three layers of bureaucracy to support an unwieldy system that will never be as cost efficient as the good old American family.

ALASKA UTILITIES ASSOCIATION

2300 Spenard Road • Anchorage, Alaska • Phone 277-6591

ROBERT B. SMITH

President

NORMAN C. BANFIELD

First Vice President

November 30, 1979

WILLIAM CORBUS

Second Vice President

THOMAS M. PEETZ

Secretary-Treasurer

Future Frontiers
308 G Street, Suite 301
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Legislators and Delegates:

We would like to suggest to the Future Frontiers symposium that consideration be given to providing a loan fund for all utility companies both publicly and investor owned, operating in Alaska particularly the smaller utilities. There were 211 certificated utilities in the state as of December 31, 1978. Of this number, only 21 had gross revenues in excess of \$1,000,000, and only 11 had gross revenues in excess of \$5,000,000.

The greatest problem facing utilities in Alaska is the difficulty in obtaining financing that has a term comparable to the life of the asset being acquired. In almost all cases, smaller utilities are limited to bank financing of 5 to 7 years maximum, even though the asset may have a life expectancy of 30 or more years. The utility, of course, is required to depreciate the asset over its useful life, not the life of the loan. The result is similar to someone buying a house. Instead of being given a 30 year mortgage, the homeowner is given a 5 to 7 year mortgage, but because his "family" is increasing, he is also expected to make the additions to his house every year. That is the experience of a utility operator today. Although we are now in a temporary slow growth period, future demands for increased and expanded services are anticipated.

Utility operators are basically "cost-plus" contractors. Their costs are submitted to the Alaska Public Utilities Commission, and after due process a rate is established. Included in those costs is the cost of capital. Although it is of greater concern to the utility companies to obtain a more realistic term (time

Page 2
Future Frontiers
November 30, 1979

period), if the state desired to make loans to utility operators at a rate lower than market, the savings would accrue to the rate-payer, since the cost of service is now lower.

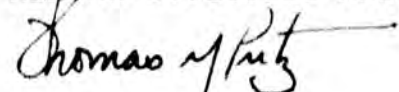
Our proposal is to create a procedure whereby utilities, both public and investor owned, could obtain monies from the permanent fund with a term to coincide with the estimated life of the asset being acquired, with a maximum term of 25 to 30 years. To reduce administrative costs, perhaps a bank's participation in a portion of the loan would be desirable. The utility would be responsible to show it could repay the loan. The major advantages to this proposal are:

1. The money is spent in Alaska by Alaskans for the providing vital utility services.
2. Utilities which are forced to make purchase decisions based upon the lowest acquisition cost could now evaluate "lifetime costing". A sound procedure not available to those who do not have access to reasonable financing terms.
3. There is an opportunity to reduce the utility's cost of capital, hence its rates, to the Alaskan people, if the legislature wishes to make loans at a reduced rate of interest.

We would be willing to meet with this group, or any other legislative group at any time. We feel Alaskan utility operators provide vital services to the people of Alaska and that the legislators need to understand their problems.

Very truly yours,

ALASKA UTILITIES ASSOCIATION



Thomas M. Peetz
Secretary-Treasurer

mb

Please note that our new address is 1301 E. 80th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99502, and new telephone number is 349-6444.

Thursday, Nov. 29, 1979

Future Frontiers
308 G Street
Suite 301
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

What constitutes a "month's rent" for a rental apartment? Is it a half month's rent..the deposit..part of the deposit or the full month..? Can three kids under 18 years of age move into a \$350.00 a month apartment, paying \$100 only and remain in the apartment with the protection of the police against the house owner? The answer is, unfortunately, yes. Because of the looseness of the prevailing rental laws here in Alaska, actual crimes are being perpetrated against landlords and much cheating owners of their due payment exists. Once the renters obtain ANY KIND of a receipt at all (even for the \$100 which was PART of a deposit) they cannot be put out without much expensive legal work, i.e. obtaining an eviction notice, serving them and then waiting out the 10 days for them to vacate...also an attorney must be hired to write the letters and set all of this in motion.

While I was in Florida during the months of April and May, 1979..I instructed my son to advertise (I wrote the ads) the nicer upper apartment of my duplex and try to get suitable renters..The ad read, "\$350 a month, \$150 deposit." *FURNISHED*
A girl 16 and a boy 17 answered the ad and said that they only had \$100 but would come up with the rest after they had moved in on June 1st...My son didn't know how to handle this and he got a friend, 58, to come over and this friend accepted the \$100 and made the girl, 16, sign a note saying they would pay the rest by June 8th.. He gave her a receipt for \$100...They said they were sister and brother but the boy was Jewish. TWO young men, another kid of 15, moved in at the same time as these two...They in turn, accepted some rent money from 3 other young people and put down mattresses in one of the two bedrooms of the apartment...sublet it, if you please..

I came back from Tampa on June 11th after a very long trip and many hours..I asked my son, "did you get the rest of the rent"..he said, "NO, they are sleeping up there"..this was 4:00 p.m...I went up, knocked on the inner door and much movement ensued..there were 4 of them resting in order that they might be able to perform much activity during the whole of each night that they were in my home...I asked if they had the rest of the rent money...\$400. They said they hadn't. I very calmly told them that they had enjoyed 11 days of free rent for 6 people and would they now just pack up and leave..The girl said, "We have a receipt;"...She got some counselor on the phone who screamed at me that "YOU CAN'T THROW THEM OUT, DO YOU HEAR!" I told everyone that they had not really RENTED MY PLACE AT ALL...that it did not constitute a real rental. I called the police to bear me out..They sided with the kids and said, "No, you will have to go down and get an eviction notice"..and then serve it and they can be evicted 10 days after serving this notice..I told them I did not have the money for any of this action..No matter..that was the way it had to be..

The police let me remove some fine books, afghans, Beethoven records, books, linen, pillows and quite a few nice things that had been left up there..This big moving business up and down the basement stairs I performed with asthma making my lungs ache and very short of breath, up and down, while the kids laughed...

They said they had paid \$200, not \$100...In two days time, I obtained the real receipt that this friend had them sign..It read that they would pay \$200 more on June 8 (which date had come and gone) and that they would have the entire \$500 paid "by June 31st". So, they had lied about having paid more than the \$100 for which they had a receipt. When I got home, I told them the news, ringing the front door bell and standing courteously outside on the porch. They excitedly told me that I had to get an eviction and that I could not turn off the hot water and heat and that I had to let them use the laundry room. They told me how I was going to run things or else. I called the police again..I stayed outside and did some weeding in the front yard and it needed it..

II

The police came out to tell me that they could not be evicted without the whole legal megilla and "don't turn off their heat and hot water either"...I said "Could I go in and get that large painting from over the couch"...It does not go with the apartment"... "NO" said Officer Shambaugh (?) I said, "You came with me, we'll go in there together"... He proclaimed, "Don't go in that apartment, don't touch that painting, put down that painting"...and with that last statement, he handcuffed me and put me under arrest, strongarming me and shoving me back and forth in front of 7 strangers..The girl's father and uncle had come over to see that this mean old landlady did not harm their amateur prostitute.

Officer Shambaugh rushed, shoved and dangled me outwards towards the door and in so doing my foot struck the male.. "Oh", cried the arresting officer, "Assault and battery"..and lo, and behold, he took me to the station, I was before a woman judge there, who said, "It seems as if the kids paid part of the deposit and NONE of the rent"..this zealous officer said, "there was a promise to pay"..and I was taken to the woman's prison and booked and fingerprinted, the whole thing. It was an exhausting, humiliating and physically abusive experience. I was released in custody of my 26 year old daughter who has her own apartment on Barrow St.

Officer Shambaugh turned my duplex and all my possessions over to these strange and wayward kids. There was no relative of mine present during all this... He made large black and blue bruises on my arms which lasted for over 2 weeks...My thumbs were so numb that I could put pins in both of them (or either of them) and not feel it and this condition lasted over a month.

Socially I have suffered more than emotionally...friends of my two boys have taunted me with "Well, I have never been arrested". People tell me, "You can't be such a good Christian, I saw your name in the paper for assault and battery..". One so called friend said, "A lot of people saw this in the paper,"...I replied, "and a lot of people didn't"...Besides shame there was expense as I saw two ~~lawyers~~ lawyers.. Mr. Charles Tulin who said it was about the rottenest thing that could happen to a woman alone..that it would NOT have happened if I had been a couple or a man..The other attorney charged me \$97.50 for writing a letter, using strong terms to threaten the kids to move, which I never used with them.

LETTER

I endured their nightly party noises for 6 nights thereafter...so much banging and fighting going on that I called the police 2 more nights..I was alone in the basement apartment and afraid of them and of their condition. I've had no experience with any of this sort of person before..the police came once after 2 hours and the 2nd time did not respond at all..they told them to "quiet down" and then left.

They moved, in part, the following Monday, leaving so much behind that I was afraid to go in and begin to clean up..they did not turn in a key BUT PASSED IT AROUND TO ANYONE WHO NEEDED A PLACE TO GO FOR THE NIGHT..I would hear footsteps at night, either one person or two persons, and they would bed down. This also frightened me plenty. Finally, I changed the locks on the two front doors and packed up their things. A man, 24, came to get THE BOXES on June 24th..He had to come down and ask me for gain entry. He said he knew nothing about the whole thing, but had given the kids money to sleep in the apartment. He was not the same type as they were.

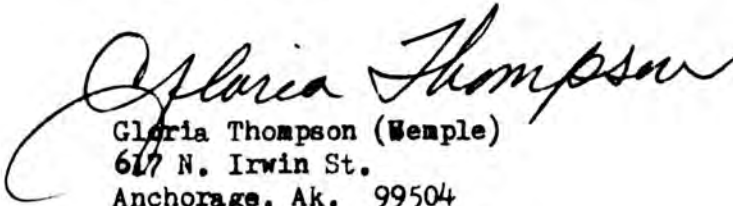
I have not rented the place again and have done without this extra money. I was a widow who remarried in 1970...this husband went to work on the pipeline and did not return after April 10th, 1977...We had a complicated 3 day divorce trial where he claimed half of my home here and other land. Therefore, I am not well off, but live mainly on my late husband's Social Security death benefits as my youngest son is 15. I could use a little financial help from a renter, but am too scared to rent anymore. P.S. Officer Shambaugh was named "Officer of the Year" much to my consternation.

It is up to the State Legislature to spell out and think it through "just what constitutes a renter"...present law does not answer the question.

III

Please be advised that I had rented to others, off and on, since Nov. 1977 and received as much as \$400 for the apartment and it is worth this. However, never did I run into anything like this last adventure. It goes without saying that had I been in command of my home these renters would not have moved in at all.. But, with apartments empty, there are many no-goodsx who are pulling this same stunt.

Please take it under consideration in the 1980 legislative session.
Respectfully,


Gloria Thompson (Weemple)
617 N. Irwin St.
Anchorage, Ak. 99504

277-9954

Note: I verbally reported this incident to the panel on the recent Commission on the Status of Women in September...violence against women in Alaska.

Copies to: Sen. W.E. Bradley
Rep. Randy Philips

Alaska need railroads, and the railroads need Alaska, But most important, Alaska's rate of growth may depend on rail cargo transportation, and planning as well as investing for cargo freight from Canada and the lower 48 is vital now.

We cannot talk about Alaska, without mentioning the Alaska population. That population is along the railbelt. The Alaska population boom will keep unfortunately, along the railbelt. For whatever reason, the Federal Government is not going to open up the land. If the Federal opens the land, the railroad is the cheapest, fastest, and most efficient way to open that land.

It is more than utopian to think that the Federal Government will contribute to extend a railroad link from Alaska to Canada, when the Federal does not want to open the land now. In order to push the Federal against the wall to open the land, the state has to take concrete measures, to start building by its own effort and resource the railroad link. That will give a very good idea to the Federal, from where the state is coming from. If the most important problem for the Alaskan is to open up the land, we should forget about capital move, in which Alaskans are splited, and start concentrating on the railroad.

Without a railroad line that link to the lower 48, no mining will take place in Alaska. Without no mining, there is not too many reasons to open up the land. No private investors group will start to build a railroad without given to them the traditional so many acres as a grant along the entire line of rails. Nowadays, far from the railroad tycoon's age, nor the state, neither the

Federal is willing to give such a grant.

The railroad has to keep running in order to make per ton/mile costs meaningful. A railroad to be profitable MUST be interstate. And the same apply for almost any means of transportation, shipping, airline or trucking. And the more combination there are of all of them not excluding the railroad, the more benefits to everybody, mainly the consumers.

I think behind the government regulation and project lay not a big brother brand of creeping socialism, but always a private vested interest. Unfortunately, or fortunately, we do not have enough private vested interests. Otherwise, we will have seen not just one, but a few railroad links to Canada and the contiguous lower 48. After so much heresay by every body in Alaska, the only one that have suited the Federal Government is a mining company. With so many diversity of private vested interests. Behind environmentalism, such a company looks like David and Goliath.

I propose that we should forget about the capital move and concentrate in building a railroad link to Canada and the Lower 48. Because the benefit will be greater to the railbelt area without harm to the southeast.

Jose Peguero
c/o Alaska Skill Center
P.O. Box 615
Seward, Alaska 99664

Jose Peguero

Anchorage, Alaska

Nov. 30 1978

First I would like to express my appreciation to the sponsorship of "Future Frontiers" by the State Legislature, the Chairmen, Senator Hohman and Representative Meekins, the Delegates present and of course an invaluable staff to ingest this task and putting it into a functioning product.

It is with great need that a huge and diverse country, with so much natural and human Resource, have a forum Review over such rapid strides since statehood. And to project and plot some of the best courses possible for our immediate benefit and to those Alaskans yet to be.

My thirty-Five years in Alaska have been exciting and fullfilling. I have traveled to at least 90% of this tremendous country and have lived in all the climatic zones with the exception of the Arctic Slope.

I have arrived at a few conclusions, and will do so given this Forum opportunity.

First I highly recommend to the Alaska State Legislature that it form and fund with impetus a Blue Ribbon (panel) Committee to study Certain (viable) resources, labor, markets-State, National, International for Manufactured Alaskan Products.

The flattening local, and national economy is something of a reminder (Anchorage) of being back to the pre-pipeline days, where nearly half of the local economy is generated by Government programs and jobs. This is often the continual case thru out the State.

To some extent this has been counterbalanced with great sales of Raw-Resource, fish, timber and now a strong state income on sales of Crude Oil.

Herein lies the problem, there simply is not a 'middle level', that can insulate us against permanent disabilities of sale of non-renewable resources including the permanent exclusion of vast amount of land to the use of Alaskans. Monuments are definitely an example of non-use resource or otherwise.

We certainly conform to the prevailing opinion of ecological use maximizing our preservation of the natural environment, but to our absolute exclusion?

I do know what the lack of controls can leave and as a youngster played among the desolate tailing piles of the Gold fields and the Copper pits of Kennecott, to name a few.

Again Alaska's contribution to the Gross National Product is indeed a peculiarity among the fifty states, basically hostage by small population and vast resource.

We simply manufacture little or nothing.

We leave it to economists who say labor is too expensive.

We leave it to entrepreneurs who wind up making the immediate dollar, retailing from national outlets.

We leave jobs, jobs-as catch phrases for political candidates or office holders as campaign fodder, but all too often basic development plans are lost in the work load of Legislature.

I just simply believe that our degree of technology, computer wizardry and the strong Spirit of Alaskans - is falling far short of the challenge.

It has become a 'state of mind', well " this certain product, is being shipped in by Sea-Land or Tote carriers." Self sufficiency of good Alaskans certainly sounds good but just isn't there in the material sense.

Well I feel we are sitting on this one.

The Nordic countries with numerous costs are simply more productive and spirited to these ends.

It is Manifest for us, writing Alaskan history, a state moving into its third decade to produce hand-machine made goods, rather than bear such a tremendous raw resource outflow.

Please, we must examine this and put it to Resolve, before the state and private sectors.

I would like to represent one other position briefly here. That is the possibility of a redistribution to Alaskans in some form a 'windfall' royalty from Alaskan crude oil.

The Governor's office has been ^{was} huddle and critized with regard to discontinuing the state income tax, or a viable tax credit (energy) to Alaskans.

I urge that an Energy Tax Credit be put on line on a sliding scale.

The Alaskan home owners would be receiving the maximum tax credit benefits and renters, leasees and down the line.

We must consider the homeowners as a prime target of energy tax credit. they support ultimately the many services that comprise our many cities and towns statewide. Consideration may also be given to the length of residency and home ownership such as given to Alaskan pioneers.

Again I cannot emphasize enough, giving the Alaskan homeowner a strong incentive in an energy credit not solely on energy used but saved!

Perhaps there will be a chance to expand on this during the Forum,
thank you,

John Nystrom, Anch. Ak. 99502
720 w. 53rd. Ave.
ph. 274-0336

To: Future Frontiers

From: Natalie Brooks
S.R. Box 520, Chugiak, Ak. 99567

Date: December 1, 1979

Subject: Problems Of Re-Entry After Incarceration

I have been involved with prisoners for the past five years because of the following activities: founder of a Visitation Ministry to Eagle River Correctional Center by the United Methodist Church of Chugiak, chairman since its inception of the Citizen Advisory Committee at Eagle River Correctional Center, and music teacher in the Arts in Prison Program at Eagle River Correctional Center and Ridgeview Correctional Center. As a result of these activities I have become involved in the lives of many prisoners and have experienced with them their difficulties in re-entering society upon release. I have become acutely aware of the near-impossibility of "making it" on the outside. The roadblocks in their way are nearly insurmountable and I am always amazed when someone is able to overcome the odds. What is being done in Alaska to help newly released offenders only scratches the surface of the need. The following programs are a sampling (some of these are not just for ex-offenders):

Glenwood (Halfway House) - Can only take a small percentage of those released on work or school release

Studio Club (and other alcohol and drug abuse programs) - can take only a small percentage

Jaycees Helping Hand Project - small

New Start Center - tries to find jobs for ex-offenders but it is difficult

National Alliance of Businessmen - provides a few jobs

Bean's Cafe - provides food and a warm shelter for Anchorage's street people during daytime hours

Criminal Justice Center TV Ads for hiring ex-offenders - Excellent in giving the public a different perspective and have helped the job situation

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation - helps a limited number of handicapped individuals in job training

Volunteers in Corrections - Has established one-to-one relationships with many prisoners and may carry over when they're out

Probation and Parole - Don't seem to have much impact on ex-offenders lives; have large case loads; not all ex-offenders have to report to them

Prisoners who do not go through other community residential programs (like Halfway House) are typically released with little or no money, no job, no skills or training, no place to live, no appropriate winter clothing. They often have no family to go to, no friends on the outside, no social connections. They have been totally dependent on the state for all their needs and suddenly they are expected to cope with meeting all their own needs. Imagine yourself in this situation: You are taken to a city in a foreign country where you know no one; you can't speak the language very well and you have only \$20.00; the customs and culture are strange; when people find out you are an American they refuse to have anything to do with you; you don't know your way around the city and must walk; no one will hire you and you can't find a place to sleep. That is the kind of situation many ex-offenders find themselves in. Its no wonder that many do something that will return them to security (i.e., jail) as soon as possible.

This may seem like an exaggeration but it is an accurate picture of many ex-offender's situation. I have experienced the frustrations, anger, fear and pain right along with several ex-offenders in this situation. And because of the high cost both in money and human suffering I would like to explore some of the causes of the problem and offer some suggestions.

I see at least eight reasons why people fail in their attempts to re-enter society. The first two are the most basic, with several relating to #2.

1. Lack of Money

None of us could survive very long in our society, particularly in Alaska, without cash, credit or collateral. Why do we expect ex-offenders to be able to do it?

2. Poor Self-Image

This is the root cause of many problems ex-offenders face. Subconsciously many feel they deserve failure (or only limited success).

3. Loneliness and Broken Connections

Often the only acceptance an ex-offender gets is from his peers. If he has been in jail long or if the jail is remotely situated his family and friend connections are often broken. Humans need social contact to survive and he may get this only in bars, from "street people", and from other ex-offenders.

4. Cultural Shock

Some kind of decompression experience is needed to make the transition from regimentation and dependency to a free society (which may be very different from the one he left on entering jail).

5. Reverting to Script

Also known as force of habit, or the familiar. Without strong support in changing behavior patterns or reinforcement of changes made while incarcerated it is almost inevitable that he will revert to his previous life script.

6. Despair, Depression, Giving Up

Only a very strong person could endure the rejection and hostility that come to an ex-offender daily. And it is my experience that none feel good about themselves to begin with.

7. Society's Refusal to Mark the Debt "Paid"

People convicted of crimes never stop paying for it. Our society is extremely stingy with forgiveness.

8. Miscellaneous Character Defects

Underdeveloped value systems, hostility, lack of coping skills, alcohol or drug dependency, etc. - the things that put him in jail the first time.

SOLUTIONS

There is no one magic answer. It is a highly complex problem which may be ultimately unsolvable unless prisons are eliminated (except for those who are a clear danger to society and probably wouldn't be re-entering). The problem exists because prisons exist. Accordingly, it follows that anything which keeps individuals out of prison is a solution. There are a number of alternatives to incarceration. One of the most sensible is restitution, which not only helps the victim, but relieves the victim and his fellow taxpayers of the \$30,569.00 a year cost of maintaining an inmate in an Alaskan prison. Several others exist, such as probation, drug and alcohol treatment centers, and community service.

Another sensible solution is shorter sentences. It is axiomatic that the longer a person is incarcerated the harder it will be for him to adjust upon release. Incarceration by its nature is psychologically destructive, so no matter how good the program within an institution it can't counteract the harm that being isolated from society does.

Anything that works to prevent dehumanization within an institution is helpful. When security is a major emphasis and people are treated like dangerous wild animals, they tend to fulfill that expectation. And of course when people are caged they tend to want revenge on the society that does this to them. When institutions are adequately staffed, when policy is consistent and not capricious, when trust exists and people are not labeled, then prisoners are able to have some dignity and feeling of worth.

Anything that gets the community into an institution and the inmates into the community will be a help in the adjustment process.

Some specific suggestions, some long-range and others more immediate, follow:

1. Child abuse programs. Studies show that a large percentage of prisoners were abused children; child abuse repeats itself, generation after generation; Alaska has one of the highest rates of child abuse in the country; and yet our legislature doesn't give funding enough to scratch the surface of the problem.

2. Money upon release. Alaska is one of only four states that gives no money to released prisoners. This is surely the hardest state to survive in without money. This is scandalous and incomprehensible to me.

3. Family sponsorship program. Several states have similar programs. A prisoner is assigned to a volunteer family before release. They can visit him and he can visit them on a furlough. They provide assistance in job hunting, perhaps lodging briefly, moral support, someone to turn to, a sort of "family connection". I tried to start a program like this four years ago but gave up when necessary legislation died after the Anchorage Times labeled it "the prisoner vacation bill". An example of the power of the media and the lack of courage of elected officials.

4. Halfway houses. Anchorage's halfway house doesn't begin to meet the need. Several are needed. If people must be locked up they need a place to adjust gradually to freedom.

5. No remote prisons. If any new prisons are built (which I personally am against) they should be in Anchorage when inmates can keep in touch with their family and friends. This is crucial to keep connections unbroken. It is even more important for the women, many of whom have children, that they not be moved to Palmer. There is no public transportation there and few prisoners' families can afford any other kind.

6. A chance to earn money while incarcerated. Inmates are presently limited to a maximum wage of \$3.00 a day. That amounts to slave labor in a country that abolished slavery quite a while ago. Inmates should be paid decent wages for work they perform and be given more opportunities to earn money. Some form of prison industry would seem to be the answer, but this could also be achieved by much wider use of work release. Prisoners could be a good source of manpower of state park projects but they should be paid adequately. A percentage of wages would go for room and board (as it does now) but decent wages would keep some prisoners' families off welfare and enable others to save for release.

7. Volunteer programs. There are many creative, successful projects with prisoners across the country. If the Division of Corrections were more cooperative, less concerned with rules and red tape, and had a Coordinator of Volunteers position I'm sure several programs would develop here. Some of the best work done with prisoners comes from volunteers, who are not hampered by cynicism, worries of job security, bureaucracy, etc. Volunteers bring enthusiasm and idealism and have been lifelines for some prisoners. The more "straight" people an inmate knows the better his chances of success on release.

8. Family Support. A program to help families of prisoners is desperately needed. Their needs fall into two categories:

(1) Basic Survival - warm clothes for the kids, how to get food stamps, how to get to the jail to visit, medical aid, emergency food, rent money

(2) Emotional Support - how to cope with having a family member in jail, teaching the kids how to cope with being teased about having a father in jail, feelings of shame and failure, someone to talk to

9. Peer Support Group. These could function something like AA: people who've been there helping each other. This could not be possible unless the law against associating with known felons is changed. This has the potential of being one of the greatest helps an ex-offender could have.

10. Public Education. Better communications (not just PR) from and withing all Criminal Justice agencies is needed. The public must be educated about the realities and the possibilities of the Criminal Justice system. The Criminal Justice Center as had a good start in this area. If the public were better informed it would be easier for legislators and administrators to make good decisions and to stick with a philosophy that works. As it is now every time there is public (or media) pressure the Division of Corrections changes course.

11. Education for legislators and key state officials (including: governor, attorney general, commissioner health and social services, commissioner public safety) These are the people who make the decisions and often act from ignorance. The Criminal Justice Center could provide a good two or three day training even that would vastly expand perceptions on criminal justice issues.

12. Advisory committees. Each major state correctional center should have a citizen advisory committee and there should be a statewide committee with a member from each center committee. These people could function effectively as liasons between the public and the institutions and assist in developing good relationships between them.

The constitution of the State of Alaska specifies that the purposes of imprisonment are protection and rehabilitation. It does not mention revenge or punishment. If we followed the direction pointed by the constitution we would have far less re-entry problems, a much lower recidivism rate, and a more crime-free society. In Alaska its not too late to do it right!

ALASKA FRONTIERS CONFERENCE - 1979

ALASKA

AN AGRICULTURALLY STRONG INDEPENDENT NATION

DAN C. HADLEY

ALASKA IS EITHER ON THE VERGE OF A BRILLIANT AGRICULTURAL FUTURE WITH THOUSANDS OF PROSPEROUS PRUDUCTIVE FARMS INCORPORATING MILLIONS OF FERTILE ACRES; OR WILL BE RELEGATED INTO A FEW THOUSAND ACRES, WATCHING ITSELF GRADUALLY DIE-OFF WITH LESS AND LESS VITALITY EACH YEAR. IN THIS ARTICLE I WISH TO SHOW: WHAT CAN BE GROWN HERE, HOW MUCH, WHAT QUALITY, WHERE IT CAN BE GROWN, HOW MUCH YEALD, HOW MUCH ACREAGE COULD BE INVOLVED, AND THE TREMENDOUS DOLLAR VALUE.

I HAVE LIVED IN ALASKA NEARLY 10 YEARS AND LOVE THIS PLACE CALLED ALASKA. ALTHOUGH I HAVE ONLY LIVED IN PALMER 5 YEARS AND FARMED A SMALL 5 ACRE FARM THERE, I HAVE STUDIED ALASKA AND ITS INCREDIABLE RESOURCES AND POTENTIAL SINCE I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL. THE MOST REMARKABLE AND LEAST HERALDED PROSPECT IS ITS EMINENCE AGRICULTURE POTENTIAL.

MY FIELD ACERAGE IS SMALL, BUT EVERY YEAR WHEAT, BARLEY, OATS, RYE, RAPESEED, AND BUCKWHEAT MATURE IN BOUNTIFUL QUANTITIES WITH HIGH QUALITY. I GROW LETTUCE, ZUHCCINI, CAULIFLOWER, AND BROCCOLI COMMER- Cially, BUT I LIKE TO EXPERIMENT TOO. I HAVE SUCCESSIVELY GROWN WATER- MELLONS, CANTELOPES, BELL PEPPERS, SWEETCORN, TOMATOES, EGGPLANT, AND CUCUMBERS; ALL OUTDOORS. ALMOST ALL OF THESE HAVE TAKEN FIRST AND SECOND PLACE RIBBONS AT THE STATE FAIR IN PALMER. IN OUR HOME GARDEN WE GROW PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING WE EAT. BESIDES THE USUAL ALASKAN VEGETABLES LIKE CABBAGE AND CARROTS, AND THE WARM WEATHER THINGS MENTIONED ABOVE, WE GROW MANY TYPES OF SQUASH, POP-CORN, STRAW- BERRIES, DRY ONIONS, ACORN SQUASH, NAVY BEANS, GREEN BEANS, GOURDS, AND SUGAR BEETS. WE ARE PROBABLY THE ONLY COMMERCIAL PUMPKIN GROWER IN ALASKA GROWING BETWEEN 50 TO 100 LARGE ONES EACH YEAR IN THE STUMP- ROWS BETWEEN THE WHEAT FIELDS. IF ALL THIS WASNT ENOUGH, THERE ALSO BEEN VERY INCOURAGING RESULTS IN EXPERIMENTS IN APPLE, CHERRY, APRICOT, PEAR, AND BUSH BEY PRODUCTION. IT HAS BEEN MY GOOD FORTUNE TO HAVE ASSISTED IN A SMALL WAY IN THIS EXCITING AND SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT.

ALL THIS IS NOT INTENDED TO IMPRESS YOU ABOUT MY POWERS AS A FARMER AND GARDENER, BUT RATHER TO DEMENSTRATE TO ALL ALASKANS JUST WHAT CAN BE DONE UP HERE IF SELECTED U OF A TESTED OR SPECIALLY DEVELOPED SEEDS AND ROOT STOCK ARE USED ALONG WITH PROVEN AND NEWLY ESTABOLISHED CULTIVATING PROCEDURES.

AMONG THE SOURCES I USED TO COMPOSE THIS ARTICLE, I FOUND THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS MOST HELPFUL:

1. ALASKAS AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL, RURAL DEVELOPEMENT COUNCIL
 2. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE 1973 SUMMARY
 3. CREATING A NORTHERN AGRICULTURE, INSTITUTE OF AG. SCIENCES
 4. VARIOUS AGRIBOREALIS PUBLICATIONS, U OF A DIV. OF AG. SCIENCE
- OTHER SOURCES WERE MOST HELPFUL AS I HAVE TRIED TO KEEP UP WITH RECENT DEVELOPEMENTS, AND HAVE DONE SOME RESEARCH ON MY OWN.

MOST FOLKS FROM THE "OUTSIDE" ARE SHOCKED TO LEARN THAT ALASKANS ONLY PRODUCE 5 PERCENT OF THE FOOD THEY EAT, IMPORTING THE REMAINING 95 PERCENT. ITS SHOCKING TO NOTE THAT THE DELICIOUS LUNCH TODAY WAS ALMOST COMPLETELY IMPORTED. THIS IS NOT THE GREENLAND ICECAP. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM? IT SEEMS THAT INAVAILABILITY OF LAND, GOVERNMENT STRANGULATION, AND ADVERSE MARKETING SYSTEMS COMBINED WITH RESULTING SMALL SCALE OF PRODUCTION (MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR FARM SUPPORTIVE BUSINESSES AND CO-OPS TO SURVIVE) ARE THE CULPRITS. THE STATE GOVERNMENT IS AS GUILTY OF ALL OF THIS AS IS THE U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. IT HAS BEEN THE FEDERAL POLICY IN REGARD TO LANDS AND DEVELOPEMENT TO "INHIBIT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPEMENT SO AS NOT TO BECOME COMPETITIVE WITH IN-PLACE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS IN THE LOWER 48 STATES"

JUST HOW MUCH LAND IS INVOLVED, ESPECIALLY IF WE LOOK AT THE WHOLE PICTURE EXCLUDING THE ARBITRARILY DRAWN LINES ON THE MAP FOR CONSERVATIONIST WITHDRAWALS? AT ONE TIME IT WAS STATED THAT THERE WAS ONLY SEVERAL THOUSANDS ACRES THAT COULD SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND THAT NEARLY ALL THIS ACREAGE WAS ALREADY DEVELOPING ON THE KENAI PENN., THE MATANUSKA VALLEY AND IN THE TANANA VALLEY NEAR FAIRBANKS. SINCE THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE (SCS) DID THEIR STUDY IN 1972 AND 1973 (AND SUBSEQUENT FOLLOW-UP WORK IN THE YEARS SINCE) LITERALLY MILLIONS OF ACRES OF PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. THEIR FIRST REPORT STATED THAT THERE WERE SOME 16 MILLION ACRES OF LANDS CONTAINING CLASS I, II, III SOILS. SINCE THEN THE FIGURE HAS RISEN TO: 17.5, 20, AND 21 MILLION ACRES. THIS LAND, BESIDES BEING FERTILE ALSO IS CLIMATICALLY SUITED FOR THE MATURING OF ALL SMALL GRAINS (IE. WHEAT, BARLEY AND OATS) AS WELL AS THE USUAL ALASKA VEGETABLE VARIETIES.

21 MILLION ACERS OF LAND IS EQUAL TO 32,815 SQUARE MILES, AND IS A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF LAND. THIS IS APPROXIMATELY EQUAL IN SIZE TO: THE STATE OF INDIANA, SOUTH CAROLINA, NORTH AND SOUTH IRELAND COMBINED, AND LAKE SUPERIOR. ALTHOUGH ONLY IOWA FARMS MOST OF ITS ACREAGE, MOST OTHER STATES TILL ONLY THE FARMABLE LANDS WHICH ARE ONLY A PORTION OF THEIR STATES. FOR EXAMPLE: CALIFORNIA FARMS ABOUT 10 MILLION ACRES,

OREGON ABOUT 5M PLUS, AND WASHINGTON STATE LESS THAN 5M. COMBINED THESE THREE STATES FARM LESS THAN THE LATENT AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN ALASKA. ALASKA NOW FARMS ABOUT 17,000 ACRES OUT OF THIS 21 MILLION, WITH THE DELTA BARLEY PROJECT (SEMI-PRIVATE-GOVERNMENT OWNED) SOON ADDING JUST 65,000 ACRES. IN ADDITION TO THIS TREMENDOUS ACERAGE THERE IS ALSO ANOTHER 10 MILLION ACRES OF PRIME GRAZING LANDS, AND APPROXIMATELY 100 MILLION ACRES OF REINDEER LANDS.

JUST WHAT COULD BE PRODUCED ON 21 MILLION ACRES OF TILLABLE AND REINDEER LANDS? HERE IS JUST ONE PROJECTION OF WHAT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED. KEEP IN MIND THAT ALL THESE ITEMS AND QUANTITIES ARE COMBINED TO FORM A WHOLE; THEY ALL ADD TOGETHER TO FORM A COMPLETE 21M PRODUCTION. (HELPFUL SOURCE: CREATING A NORTHERN AGRICULTURE, INST. OF AG. SCIENCE).

2,152 MILLION POUNDS BEEF
3,135 MILLION POUNDS PORK
 .8 MILLION POUNDS LAMB
 13 MILLION POUNDS REINDEER
530 MILLION POUNDS MILK
 18 MILLION DOZEN EGGS
 .4 MILLION POUNDS WOOL
 11 THOUSAND TONS OATS
 17 MILLION TONS HAY
 1 MILLION TONS VEGETABLES
 2 MILLION TONS FRUIT AND BERRIES

SOME PROJECTIONS AS TO AREA AND PRODUCTION PER YEAR:

(IN MILLIONS OF POUNDS)

AREA	BEEF	PORK	MILK	GRAIN
UPPER YUKON VALLEY	1,164	2,444		90
TANANA VALLEY	671	1,247	400	50
MAT-SU AREA	353	421	200	22

THE TOTAL DOLLAR VALUE FROM THIS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN 1975 DOLLARS WOULD TOTAL 5,415,680 DOLLARS. THIS WOULD ALSO EMPLOY A YEARLY INVESTMENT OF 73,882 MAN YEARS OF LABOR, PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT TO MANY MORE THAN THIS FIGURE SINCE FARMING WOULD UTILIZE PART-TIME HELP. TOO MANY OF OUR YOUTH ARE GOING JOBLESS, BUT WHY COULDN'T THEY BE HELPING THE FARMING ENTERPRISE WHILE EARNING AND LEARNING.

THE BUSINESS SPIN-OFF FROM ALL THIS IS EQUALLY EXCITING. JUST TO SUPPORT SUCH AN EXISTING FARMING STRUCTURE, THE FOLLOWING WOULD BE NEEDED ANNUALLY:

3.8 MILLION POUNDS OF FERTILIZER

278 THOUSAND GALLONS DIESEL FUEL AND GASOLINE

2,500 TRACTORS

627 PLOWS

75 COMBINES

THE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES NEEDED FOR THIS MASS FARMING ENTERPRISE WOULD ALSO EMPLOY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AS WELL AS MAKE POSSIBLE THE EXISTENCE OF MANY LUCRATIVE BUSINESSES IN THE SUPPLY AND SERVICE AREAS. WE COULD SUPPLY 20 PERCENT OF THE RED MEAT CONSUMPTION IN THE UNITED STATES AND PROVIDE FOOD AND FEED GRAINS TO MUCH OF EAST ASIA. THIS WOULD ENABLE ALASKA TO DO MUCH TO ALLEVIATE THE STARVATION AND SUFFERING IN ASIA AND THE WORLD, AS WELL AS ASSIST OTHER DEVELOPING NATIONS WITH THESE NEEDS.

ALASKA HAS 430 MORE HOURS OF SUNSHINE THAN THE CHICAGO ILLINOIS, THAT IS THE EQUIVALENT OF 36 - 12 HOUR DAYS. THEREFORE WHEN CONSIDERING

THE LOWER 48 STATES AND THE 3 MONTHS OF SUMMER THERE: WHILE THEY ARE HAVING 3 MONTHS OF SUNNY WEATHER, WE HERE IN ALASKA ARE ENJOYING 4 MONTHS IN JUST 3 MONTHS. ALSO WHEN YOU CONSIDER THAT VEGETABLES ALSO GROW IN TWILIGHT OUR PLANTS NEVER STOP GROWING IN THE SUMMER (SUMMER NIGHTS ARE DARK DOWN THERE). NO WONDER OUR CABBAGES REACH 70 POUNDS AND MORE UP HERE AND OUR TURNIPS GROW TO OVER 40 POUNDS.

YIELDS PER ACRE ARE ALSO HIGHER. HERE ARE JUST SOME EXAMPLES.

AVERAGE YIELD COMPARISON PER ACRE BETWEEN ALASKA AND THE U.S.A.

	ALASKA	LOWER 48
CABBAGE (6467)	69,604	21,800
BROCCOLI (GEM)	17,338	7,700
BEANS (PROVIDER)	19,213	4,720
CUCUMBERS (TRIPPLE PURPOSE)	57,182	9,380

(ALASKA CUCUMBERS GROWN THROUGH CLEAR PLASTIC MULCH)

THE QUALITY OF ALASKAS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IS ALSO MARKEDLY HIGHER. WHILE SMALL GRAINS YIELD HIGHER AVERAGES PER ACRE THAN THOSE IN THE LOWER 48 (OCCASIONALLY BREAKING NATIONAL RECORDS), THESE SMALL GRAINS ARE CONSISTANTLY VERY HIGH IN PROTIEIN AND MILLING QUALITY. RECENTLY ONE OF OUR WHEAT VARIETIES WAS TESTED IN THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MILLING INSTITUTE. ON A SCALE OF 100 POINTS, CHENA WHEAT GROUND FINE ENOUGH TO RATE 98 POINTS. ONLY ONE OTHER WHEAT EVER TESTED THERE SCORED HIGHER (99), AND OUR WHEAT WAS SAID TO BE THE SECOND BEST EVER TESTED THERE. VEGETABLES HAVE ALSO HAD SIMILAR SUCCESS. A TEST DONE AT THE MATANUSKA EXPERIMENTAL STATION A FEW YEARS AGO TESTED CELLULOSE THICKNESS (THE OUTER PROTECTIVE FIBER LAYER THAT CAN MAKE VEGETABLES TOUGH), AND SUGAR CONTENT. THEY FOUND THERE TO BE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN CELLULOSE THICKNESS, AND THE SUGAR CONTENT TO BE ALMOST HALF AGAIN THE U.S. AVERAGE IN MANY VEGETABLES.

WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN TO ALASKA AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION? FIRST OF ALL IT MEANS THAT WE CAN VERY WELL FEND FOR OURSELVES BY PROVIDING MOST OF THE MEAT, CEREALS, BREADS, DAIRY PRODUCTS, VEGETABLES, SUGAR, AND EVEN SOME FRUIT. WE CAN ALSO EXPORT A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION, FURTHER ENHANCING THE BALLANCE OF TRADE IN OUR FAVOR. THIS CONCEPT WILL ALSO ENCOURAGE SETTLEMENT OF LAND BY TURNING THESE VALUABLE ACRES FROM GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP TO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP, AND THUS BECOMING TAX-GENERATING INSTEAD OF A TAX BURDEN. THE SETTLEMENT AND USE OF OUR RICH LATENT AGRICULTURAL LANDS WILL ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE. BY SPREADING THE POPULATION OVER THE LAND A POTENTIAL ENEMY WOULD HAVE A MUCH HARDER TIME SWEEPING OVER THE LAND TO ELIMINATE DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS. A PEOPLE WOULD BE MUCH MORE RELUCTANT TO FIGHT TO PROTECT A HUGE PARK THAN THEIR OWN PRIVATE PROPERTY FARMS.

ALASKA INDEED HAS A BRILLIANT AGRICULTURAL FUTURE. EVERYTHING WE USE NEED NOT BE GROWN HERE, BUT THERE IS NO REASON FOR ANYTHING LIKE THE PRESENT SITUATION TO PERSIST. WITH MALNUTRITION RAGING AROUND THE WORLD AND THE ALASKAN PEOPLE STARVING FOR LAND AND OPPORTUNITY, IT IS A CRIME NOT TO UTILIZE THIS IMMENSE RESOURCE IN LAND. I'M TIRED OF LAND PLANNERS CLASSIFYING PRIME LANDS INTO PERPETUAL MOOSE-PASTURE, BUREAUCRATS HIDING FACTS FROM THE PUBLIC, AND SEEING CONDOMINIUMS SPRINGING UP LIKE MUSHROOMS IN ANCHORAGE AND FAIRBANKS.

WE HAVE EVERYTHING WE NEED TO BE A TRUELY "GREAT LAND"...WE HAVE
BOUNTIFUL OIL, MINERALS, FISH, TIMBER AND RICH AGRICULTURAL LANDS -

WAITING FOR THE PRUDENT AND HARD WORKING FARMER. EVERYTHING THAT IS
EXCEPT THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACCOMPLISH THESE GOALS. ALASKA AS AN
INDEPENDENT NATION WOULD BE IN THE BEST POSSIBLE POSITION TO ENSURE
ITS PEOPLE THE FREEDOM, LIBERTY AND LAND THEY NEED TO BUILD ALASKA
INTO THE NATION THAT WE ALL DREAMED OF WHEN WE ASPIRED TO BECOME A
STATE IN 1958. INDEPENDENCE IS GROWING IN POPULARITY AT A RAPID RATE
AND WE NEED TO PLAN NOW A GREAT, STRONG AND FREE NATION KNOWN THE
WORLD OVER AS "ALASKA"

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THE LAND IMPERATIVE

by JOSEPH E. VOGLER

NOVEMBER 30, 1979

Alaskans for Independence

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Joseph E. Vogler is a Real Estate Developer and Placer Miner.

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Joseph E. Vogler is the organizer of Alaskans For Independence and has been the Alaska National Chairman since its origin of February 3, 1973.

THE LAND IMPERATIVE
By Joseph E. Vogler

Alaska will have her land and Alaskans will use it. This is as inevitable as the march of the pioneers across America to the Pacific Ocean.

This will not be done as it was in the 48 by an endless path of broken Indian treaties and promises. The Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement Act has assured there will be no repetition of those injustices; but let all who would deny our people, their God given right to land, beware of the actions of people too long denied their due.

The nature-proven prime compulsion of all creatures for an exclusive territorial area for their life-need is too well recognized for argument. Ardrey's - Territorial Imperative, will explain this to the uninitiated!

Only the drivel of Bureaucratic fools will dispute this. It is to both this group and the citizens of Alaska, that this is directed; lest it become necessary that the people enforce their God-given unalienable rights by extreme measures.

Alaskans are a hard core of individualists and land oriented individuals. The desire for privacy, individual expression, the opportunity for the do it yourselfer, for self-reliance is rampant in Alaskans. It might well be well described as endemic.

Except for those individuals who come to Alaska to do a job on the people and the land, the majority of Alaskans either own or are looking for a piece of land that he or she can afford. Ask any subdivider or person fortunate enough to own land, what it is that our people want most. Only the shortage of private land or the price bars the vast majority from the land.

To see that this is not a recent development, let us examine our State Constitution. Article 8, Sec. 1 is most explicit in its declaration. "It is the policy of the State to encourage the settlement of its land and the development of its resources by making them available for maximum use consistent with public interest."

Many officials in the executive, legislative, and judicial departments have taken their oath to uphold and defend this Constitution. What has been their performance? Miserably poor is the best that can be said for them, at the worst it is outright betrayal of trust. Dr. Mike Belrne tried in vain to remedy twenty years of inaction, only to have the Supreme Court, confuse the word appropriate with the obvious intended connotation, "to expend money for a particular use," a shameful dodge of words.

The Governors, six ways to get land, broadcast to the four corners of Alaska, just before the last election, borders on use of public funds for a personal campaign use and amounted to a despicable deception of the land hungry populace of the great land.

The sale of public lands, certainly is not making lands available for maximum use consistent with the public interest, especially when seniority made a shamble of our young peoples hopes.

The legislatures have hedged, dodged and ignored their duty, to their eternal shame.

The long time honored practice of granting homesteading, headquarter sites, trade and manufacturing sites, and homesites, under well established rules for use, occupancy and development, worked wonders in America and is a good example for the State to follow.

Until our Constitution is amended to mock the present "Lock-up" policies of the United States, it is nothing less than treason of our governors, judges, and legislators, to fail to make our lands available to our people. This must include the development of our resources, the minerals, timber, water power and all that goes with human utilization of this earth to promote a healthier fuller life for our people with less of the privations and difficulties, so prevalent just a short century ago even in America, and still so evident in the third world developing nations where human toil, want and misery are the lot of the multitudes.

I have difficulty in finding an example in the animal kingdom for such a shameful denial of living space to its own kind. For want of a better example, I can only reach back to my boyhood task of slopping the pens of hogs, when I found it necessary to rout with my boot, some of the fat sows, who delighted to lay lengthwise in the trough while swilling down the grain and denying the younger and weaker a space at the trough and their share of food.

Our people will have the land and its resources to provide sites for homes, work and recreation. Jobs, except at the public trough, come only from the use of our land, the harvest of our renewable timber and waters, or the wresting of our mineral wealth from the plains and hills and its processing.

The ongoing robbery of jobs from our people by exporting our oil without all refining processes is a crime against every able bodied man and woman in Alaska who wants to work. Many of our government employees are quick to say that the only reason they work for some branch of government is quite simple, their government jobs are the only ones available. They are just putting beans on the table with the employment that is available! No gas should leave Alaska without full processing for petrochemical uses to make jobs for Alaskans. Payrolls are the feed stock for other service businesses.

Many Alaskans, Native and non-native, who have been forced outside for employment would like to return home, if the opportunities were here for them to work!

This is the result of the culpable and criminal failure of our elected officials to carry out the mandate of our Constitution. When 28,000 Alaskans signed Dr. Beirnes petition, it is consistent with the public interest! And if it was not well-drafted, where was the legislature? And Governor?

We must utilize every gallon of water that runs back to the sea, it is a renewable energy source. As the Shah of Iran said years ago, "petroleum is too scarce and valuable to be used for energy or heat, it should be saved for pharmaceuticals and petrochemicals." Our coal must be fully utilized.

We must make homesteads available of at least 640 acres, in areas beyond the region surrounding population centers needed for habitation, including both industrial and recreation purposes. Only this will offer opportunity to our young potential farmers!

Our timber must be harvested, our minerals mined and processed, our farming developed to feed our people as well as other peoples not so fortunate in arable land. We must become efficient producers from the bounty of our land, as stewards to the world, to justify our position among the landed nations of the world.

Our land titles must grant both surface and sub-surface rights lest bureaucrats continue in the pattern of paternalistic squandering of our wealth. It worked in America and built the most noble nation. The individual is the best judge of the use of his or her land and its wealth.

If you doubt the truth of these statements listen to the people a bit, while they are still patiently waiting for their God-given dues. Why do they distrust, hate and damn every branch of government?