

OMAR VISITS SEWARD

Continued from page 6

and Smokey the Bear in attendance at the "D-1 Bowl", the OMAR team made a heroic effort to come from behind and tie the Greenies 18-18. With referees C.W. Frog and Mitch Abood calling the shots, neither team could muster additional points to pull ahead and win. There were no serious football injuries, although it was reported Anchorage Mayor George Sullivan was seen nursing a skinned knee behind an ambulance.

Special agents for the Alaska Railroad made a few "arrests" during a futile attempt at a train robbery at Moose Pass. Among those taken into custody and handcuffed was the poorly disguised mayor of Seward, Ray Hugli, and members of the Seward City Council. The bandits were soon released, however, after they promised to behave themselves.

Special guests of honor for the charter were Lloyd's of London insurance broker

William L. Seward and his wife. Seward is a descendant of William Henry Seward, who negotiated the sale of Alaska from Russia in 1867.

OMAR would like to thank the following "nice people" for their volunteer effort in making the train charter such a success:

Liz Letts
Connie Parker and Friends
Mark and Charlene DeWees
Jinnie Holley
Carolyn Walters
Barbara Hinchee
Kelly Gay
Pat Lafleur
Bill Purrington
Kathy Easley
Rosalee Danielson
Gloria Winn
and countless others too numerous to mention.

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September 1978

WASHINGTON, JACKSON AND ALASKA

The Ketchikan Daily News, in an August 19 editorial, stated that Washington Sen. Henry Jackson is discovering "what Alaskans have warned about. If environmentalists can lock up Alaska, they'll go after the other states next," and as a result may not be too eager to create huge reserves here.

What follows is a portion of that editorial.

"In Jackson's home state, 23 environmental groups have banded together to form Citizens for Washington Wilderness. They want one-third of the natural forests in Washington made into wilderness. This would expand wilderness areas in Washington state

from 1.6 million acres to 3.4 million.

"The environmentalists are unhappy with a U.S. Forest Service proposal for wilderness designation — it's not enough. They'll go after more which means they'll go after Jackson. Also going after Jackson will be the timber industry in Washington state, whose spokesmen say the proposal by Citizens for Washington Wilderness will cost 11,000 jobs.

"Jackson may want to stall things along on Alaska for awhile until he sees what he has to contend with at home. Alaska land may become a valuable trading issue with western senators faced with environmental demands in their home states."

WORLDWIDE EFFORT NEEDED ON OCEAN RESOURCES

The state chairman of the joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission, Walt Parker, told the 29th Alaska Science Conference in Fairbanks earlier this month, that there is an urgent need for world coordination on the use of sea resources. Parker, whose remarks were contained in one of the 31 technical papers presented at the conference, said that coordination between state, federal and international organization would be focused on the planning, exchange of information, and the implementation of programs for the use of the sea and shorelines.

Parker suggested that the President

appoint two representatives: one to handle onshore land and resource problems in Alaska, and a similar representative for coordinating Alaskan offshore matters. Both representatives would meet with the governor of Alaska on federal and state policy matters and programs.

Both representatives would head Alaskan and Washington committees made up of those whose primary concerns are with onshore and offshore problems. "If we achieve a higher level of domestic coordination, then the solution to our international problems may become much clearer," said Parker.

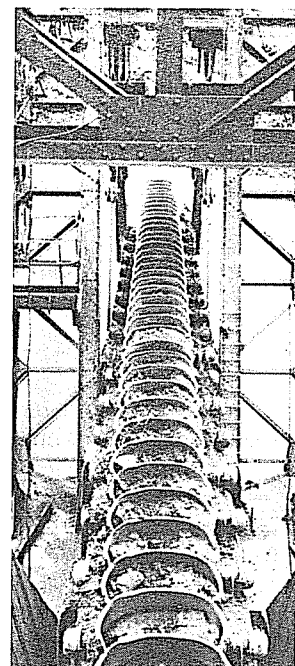
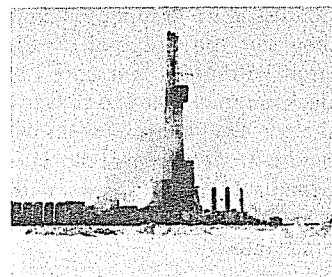
INFLATION BOOSTER

The American Petroleum Institute's "Communicators Hotline" reports that the Council on Wage and Price Stability has estimated federal regulations add three-quarters of a point to the annual inflation rate. If they are implemented, new regulations now in the works may cost businesses and consumers an

extra \$35 billion.

Add \$100 billion to that figure (what the Federal Paperwork Commission estimates the regulations cost in 1976) and divide it by \$56.7 million (the number of families in the U.S.) and it "give us a tab of \$2,380 per family."

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Work is continuing on the Comprehensive Plan for Homer, with efforts being made to incorporate public comment from a July public Borough Planning Commission hearing.

Another public hearing by the Local Advisory Planning Commission may be held before November 1 on the final revised draft now under way, prior to sending it to the Borough Assembly for a vote.

In a special question and answer report in the Homer News August 24, city planner Steve Baker said the plan is not a zoning document and is not intended to set design standards. Alaska statutes require the plan before new zoning audiences can be drawn up. The plan will be used to obtain grants, funding and as a guideline for future policy making.

Baker, who offered technical assistance for the plan, said the purpose of the document was to provide general guidance. "You can't be too specific or you lose flexibility," said Baker.

Baker said the plan steers away from "sprawl and strip" development which is the most costly form in terms of tax dollars and environmental degradation, and promotes fishing, tourism and "small laid-back, low-

About 350 madcap merry-makers climbed aboard the first passenger train in years to travel to Seward for OMAR's fundraising "Roaring 20's Express." The train pulled out of Anchorage September 16, loaded with beer, wine, food, dance hall girls and bands, and rolled into Seward about four hours later.

The passengers piled out of the train's fourteen cars and met Seward residents on the community's gravel football field to watch the OMAR "Resource Raiders" and the Interior Department "Greenie Backpackers" fight on the gridiron for 230 million acres of federal land in Alaska.

With such celebrities as Wonder Woman *Continued on page 8*

TRANS-ALASKA OIL PIPELINE COLLECTORS' ITEMS

Commemorative plaques and desk weights certified to contain oil from the FIRST BARREL OF OIL received at Valdez, Alaska, from Prudhoe Bay, July 28, 1977:

WALNUT PLAQUES Distinctive and elegantly designed, each plaque is numbered for one of 799 pipeline miles. The map of Alaska is carved in bas relief, set off by inset brass corners and inscribed plate, raised lettering and miniature pipeline containing Prudhoe Bay oil. Size: 12" x 14" Cost: \$200

DESK WEIGHTS Clear lucite desk weight measures 4½ x 3¾ x 1½ inches with red base. Tube of oil, pipeline mile and inscription in center. Cost: \$30

True collectors' items, only 799 of each were manufactured. Register of owners maintained at OMAR. Send check or money order to Organization for the Management of Alaska's Resources (OMAR), Box 516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510.

NOTE: The U. S. Department of the Interior may have been a little more popular in Alaska today if they had maintained their pro-development stance of the late 1930's. Harry Slater, who back in those days was the Under Secretary of the Interior, sent a memo to Alaskan department employees dated September 25, 1939, in which he provided instructions on how to answer questions pertaining to an Interior report on the development of the Territory's resources.

What follows are excerpts from his memo which calls for resource development, and increased immigration as a possible solution to that problem.

" . . . Many reasons for the low population of Alaska may be given: the tradition of get-rich-and-get-out, the World War and the flu epidemic; the unequal sex distribution and the low birth rate; the high cost of living; the immigration laws of 1921 and 1924 which cut down foreign immigration to Alaska by 83 per cent, the absentee ownership which siphons off Alaska's raw materials, the seasonal character of 95 per cent of the employment, the lack of local capital for investment, the widespread myth that Alaska is a land of wolves and icebergs which frightens away potential settlers, the mistaken view that conservation is equivalent to nonuse of resources, the tendency to postpone positive action pending further research and studies, which always show the need for more studies

The Northwest Power Association's Distinguished Service Award has been presented this year to Ernest J. Haugen, member of the State House of Representatives, District 2.

The award, which has been given since 1961, is awarded to persons who have made contributions of service to the interest of public power.

Haugen, a former mayor of Petersburg, has served in the Alaska State Legislature since 1965. While in Juneau in 1973, he introduced an act creating the Renewable Resource Development Fund, under which revenues from non-renewable resources would be utilized to develop renewable resources.

Chuck Meacham, the State's Director of External Affairs, says it is becoming more and more clear that Alaska is becoming an export state.

The State of Alaska has been maintaining for the last fifteen years, a branch office in Tokyo, designed to improve trade negotiations between the state and Asia. The little-known office has been brought to the forefront with recent long-time efforts by Alaskans to develop an export industry for chemicals to Japan.

Negotiations for export of fish and fish products will result in more frequent visits by Asian representatives to the state, and Alaskans to the Tokyo office to iron out details of lucrative export markets.

" . . . It is proposed that companies which are willing to invest substantial sums of money in setting up new industries in Alaska should be given charters by the Federal Government. Under such charters, first preference in employing workers on any project would go to residents of Alaska and other citizens of the United States. Where the number of jobs so established exceeded the number of qualified available citizens, it is suggested that special immigration visas be allowed to qualified persons in foreign countries . . . "

" . . . It is an inescapable obligation of the Federal Government towards the people of Alaska to encourage the development of the Territory's vast resources and to further the growth of its trade, its industries, its prosperity and its population. Every step taken in the proposed program of Alaskan development should be judged by its effectiveness in achieving these objectives."

VALDEZ HAS POTENTIAL, PROBLEMS, AS POSSIBLE PORT FOR INTERIOR

The Port of Valdez has been the target of much interest from Fairbanks residents, as a potential facility for reducing freight costs and providing faster service to that Interior city.

Coast Guard Commander Homer Purdy, in an interview with the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, said the pipeline terminus community has great potential for development of its port, which he estimated is handling less than ten per cent of its capacity for major vessels. Purdy was quoted as saying that Valdez "has the best natural harbor" in Alaska. The harbor is further enhanced with computer facilities and navigational equipment designed to monitor tankers and other large vessels.

There are, however, natural drawbacks that may slow development of Valdez.

Seismic conditions, the Valdez Narrows, High winds and snowfall and several sections of the Richardson Highway which need repair, are among those obstacles which have had a hand so far in Valdez's lack of recognition as a port (other than being the end of the trans-Alaska oil pipeline.)

The Port of Anchorage is a major supplier of goods to Fairbanks and competition for Valdez. The NEws-Miner reports that less than 400 containers maximum are carried on regular container ships, and estimates show that 260 containers now pass through Anchorage on their way to Fairbanks.

A few more are also destined for other parts of Interior Alaska. The newspaper states that it is estimated that at least 300 containers would be needed to attract a container ship to Valdez on a weekly basis.

BOTTOM FISHING

The State of Alaska's bottomfish coordinator, Jim Edenso, said that while the state does want the bottomfish industry, there is a lack of data which may be hindering its re-development.

Edenso told the Ketchikan Daily News that fish processors "don't want to invest (in the industry) with only limited knowledge of the market." He added fishermen "are reluctant to enter the industry" and that they need additional information on bottom-fishing and its markets.

According to Edenso, the state is considering establishing demonstration projects, which Edenso speculates will be fairly expensive and regional. The Aleutian Islands are currently the site for most bottomfish activity, and Edenso said he believes there is potential for the industry "all over the state, wherever there is water."

The bottomfish market (pollock, cod, halibut, flat fish, etc.) is extensive in Japan and Korea as well as the U. S.

DANNISH SALTING PLANT COMES CLOSER TO REALITY

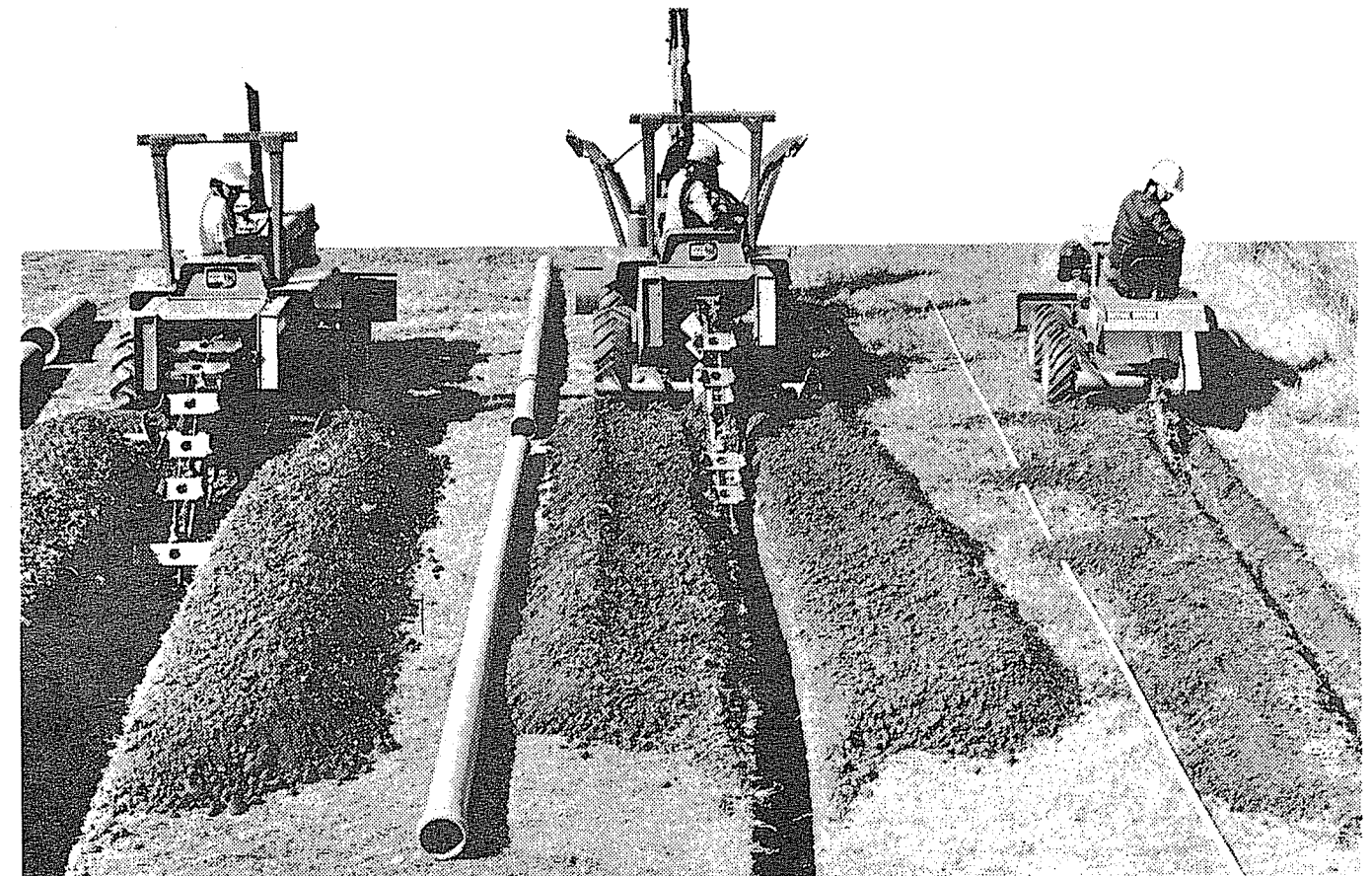
The Danish firm, Alf Tomsen, which operates the Alaska Cod Company, has signed a six week option on building and dock space in Kodiak. That action by the Danes is a major step in the firm's setting up of a \$1.5 million salting plant for the processing of pollock, cod and herring. The option will give the Alaska Cod Company time to clear themselves with the Environmental Protection Agency and Kodiak city and borough planning officials. Borough mayor Betty Wallin told the Kodiak Mirror late last month that she anticipates no zoning problems with the potential saltery site, which is owned by T.T. Fuller, and located near the Whitney-Fidalgo plant.

The Danes are also considering building in Port Lions after they have first set up a Kodiak cannery. Port Lions has expressed an interest in being a site for a saltery operation.

The Aleutian Pribilof Association was also reported to be discussing the possibility of a saltery on the Aleutian chain with the Alaska Cod Company.

Earlier reports have indicated estimates of between 30 and 40 persons who would be employed at the facility which would process 220,000 to 330,000 pounds of fish daily. The salting operation would involve fish too small for filleting machines now being operated by the New England Fish Company (under 15 inches in length.)

The Danes have also stated they are considering plans to set up a fish meal processing equipment in the saltery. The Alaska Cod Co. told the Alaska-Danish bottomfish development committee earlier this summer that the Alf Tomsen firm now has markets for 31 million pounds of salted fish per year in Europe and South America.



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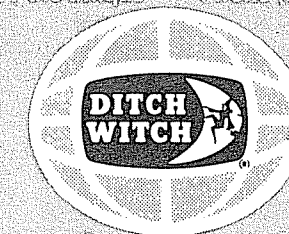
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