

# ALASKAN COLONY IS GETTING CLOSE TO PAY-OFF DATE

## Repayment Of Advances Begins In 1940 For Matanuska Colonists—Their Value In Defense Cited.

WASHINGTON—If the government should say that after October there would be no more relief money for anybody, it would be somewhat comparable to what has been done for Harry Hopkins' northern outpost, the Matanuska test-tube pioneer project in Alaska.

This most dramatic of all relief projects has come to the jumping-off place, and families which during the last two years have received as much as \$75 a month for clearing their farms will get nothing after their fall harvest is in.

Jack London and other writers have painted Alaska as a land of perpetual snow and snarling malcontents. Probably there was not a handful of people in all the United States who ever knew that they raise carrots, pigs and peas up there. Matanuska has at least demonstrated that Alaskan farming is a possibility.

It was two years ago that the relief administration took the country by surprise and rounded up about 200 families from stranded farming and lumbering communities in Michigan, Minnesota, Montana and other northern belt states to cart them off to Alaska.

Taking them off to Siberia was the accusation at times voiced by critics, but after a few sensational desertions and complaints, news about the pioneer project petered out until the present order was issued putting them on their own.

Under the contract with the 200 families taken to Matanuska in 1935, each was to have 40 acres of land, farming equipment, houses and a grub stake to last until cash crops could be raised. They earned their grub stake by clearing 15 acres of their own land, for which the government paid them \$62.50 an acre.

An energetic Swede could clear off about two acres a month—that is, cut the trees and burn the brush. The government paid contractors to remove the stumps.

Of the money he earned, each farmer was allowed a maximum of \$75 a month and the rest was kept for him as a nest egg when the government should cut off the money. Some earned additional money building roads. All in all, the government has put \$5,000,000 into the project.

At present only 170 families are on the site and if they had to pay off the entire five million they would fold at once.

But the government has winked off about four of every five dollars

# MAN IN CUSTODY LEADS OFFICERS TO HIDING PLACE

(Continued from Page One.)

special grand jury to convene Monday morning.

Hidden in Thicket  
Sheriff D. C. Coleman said McCall, without any show of emotion, led Hoover, himself, and a squad of agents to the dense thicket where the dead boy had been left, without an effort at burial. Little remained but the skeleton and fragments of the pajamas the five-year-old tow-head wore when he was seized from his bed May 28.

"The body of the boy was found a little less than a mile southeast of the cash home. The ransom money was discovered about 200 yards east of the body.

When it was explained what condition the body was in the boy's father decided not to look at it. Friends of the family said they planned an early, private funeral.

It was McCall, who called Cash's attention to the third ransom note two nights after the abduction, saying he found it on the floor of Cash's apartment and that the kidnaper apparently had slipped it under the door.

Arrested June 1  
Sheriff Coleman, suspicious because the note had been wadded into a ball, arrested McCall June 1. After questioning he was released, with G-men shadowing him. The following day he joined the volunteer possemen hunting for clues over the very ground where the body and the ransom were hidden. That night authorities picked him up again and he has been held ever since in a detention cell at the FBI office atop a downtown skyscraper.

There he could be protected from violence, but Princeton received the news the case had been "broken" without any great stir. McCall's wife had left town and her whereabouts was not disclosed.

In addition to recovering the ransom, the authorities also found the shoebox in which Cash delivered the 1500 bills of small denomination. It had been torn to pieces and hidden beneath a stone in a palmeto clump named Lone Hand.

The locations of the body, the ransom and the shoebox indicated the locale of the entire crime never ranged farther than two miles from the Cash home. This circumstance apparently strengthened authorities in their belief McCall carried it out by himself. He did not own an automobile.

Worley took charge of the prosecution as Hoover indicated no federal law apparently had been violated and the kidnaper should be tried in the state courts. Whether he is charged with murder or kidnapping for ransom, he would face a possible death sentence upon conviction.

Sheriff Coleman said McCall bore generally a good reputation in Princeton and Sheriff Frank Hancock of Jasper, Fla., his birthplace, described the suspect as "a boy who some-

# NEW MOBILE RADIO IS LATEST AID IN FOREST FIRE WAR

PORTLAND (Sp)—"Calling all rangers" may soon become a familiar radio summons in fire-threatened forests, states A. G. Simson, radio engineer for the U. S. forest service.

Simson announced a new radio mobile unit recently perfected for use in rangers' automobiles, fire trucks and other moving vehicles attached to the fire fighting army. This radio equipment is designed to operate on a frequency channel especially allocated to the forest service for fire protection use.

Simson, recently returned from a loop trip covering several western states, was able to demonstrate from a moving car the efficiency of the new device under favorable as well as unfavorable conditions. Under favorable conditions, he contacted forest service stations as far distant as 400 or 500 miles. Conservatively, the mobile instrument has a sending and receiving range of 25 miles, Simson said.

Its extraordinary performance, which Simson considers a real triumph for the forest radio laboratory (national headquarters of forest service radio development) is made possible by a special matching unit at the base of the "fish pole" antenna, which insures the maximum transfer of power from transmitter to antenna and conversely from antenna to receiver. The unit is equally effective at the transmitter or the receiver.

The tiny instrument requiring eight watts of power (obtained from the automobile batteries) uses a sixty-cent fish pole for its antenna. The complete transmitter is easily installed in an ordinary automobile requiring space about eight inches square and a foot long.

It is seen that the new radio unit may become extremely valuable in fire control work; for example, in sending messages to trucks headed for a forest fire or in receiving messages from rangers or other fire control officials traveling forest roads during critical fire conditions.

Quarry Dooms Castle  
LONDON (AP)—Demolition of Belmont Castle, near Grays, Essex, so chalk beneath the castle an be quarried, is removing a famous Thames-side landmark. The castle was built in 1700 by Zachariah Button, high sheriff of Essex.

There are no jury trials in China. In the lower courts, all powers are vested in a single judge. In the case of appeal to the high court, three judges render the final decision.

# MINER 'FISHES' GOLD FROM BERING SANDS

NOME, Alaska (AP)—An enterprising operator has "fished" successfully for gold through holes chopped in thick ice of the Bering sea.

Howard Lyng, former legislator and member of the territorial welfare board, told how Joe Sullivan, old time miner, conducted the first productive venture in extracting gold from Bering sea sands.

The mining innovation was undertaken 1,000 feet from the beach through a large hole cut in the ice near Bluff, 62 miles down the coast from Nome. Dirt was hauled from the ocean bed in a three and a half foot bucket, "high-lined" to the beach and dumped.

After 50 days' work the dump was "blinded" and Lyng said, Sullivan brought \$30,000 in gold into Nome. Sullivan is reopening the operation, and others are expected to try the same system.

Jarrett Divorces Beautiful Eleanor  
LOS ANGELES, June 9.—(AP)—Arthur L. Jarrett, singing orchestra leader, today obtained a divorce from beautiful Eleanor Holm, one-time Olympic swimmer.

All this talk of a romance between Eleanor and Billy Rose, theatrical producer, caused Jarrett "great mental anguish and embarrassment," he testified in so many words at the hearing. Judge Charles E. Haar granted him the decree.

And thus was removed one of the bars to the marriage of Miss Holm and the diminutive Rose.

Cat Nurses Coyotes  
McFADDEN, Wyo. (AP)—Mrs. Iven Gordon McFadden is raising a strange family of pets. Her white Persian cat, Snowball, has adopted four tiny coyotes found in a den. The cat had just had kittens, which were taken from her, and she began nursing the young coyotes.

War Cuts Bible Sale  
SHANGHAI (AP)—Bible sales in China dropped 20 percent during 1937 as a result of the Sino-Japanese war, according to figures contained in the annual report of the China Bible society, an Anglo-American publishing house.

# ASHLAND MODEL TOWN IN VIRTUAL FREEDOM FROM LIQUOR ABUSES

PORTLAND, June 9.—(AP)—Enforcement records of the state liquor control commission showed today that while some cities had fewer violations than others no community could be singled out as a model.

The comment was made by the enforcement division after the commission said Ashland had been "virtually free" of infractions.

Neither could any community be presented as a "bad example." Outside of Portland, where beer and wine licenses were most abundant, cities in logging and other industrial areas were about equal in the number of violations.

The commission amended its regulations to provide that outdoor advertising by billboards and signs would be permitted only when it was not prohibited by local ordinance.

Action taken included: Licenses granted—Mr. and Mrs. Hannibal A. Swab, Evergreen Auto court, Gold Hill, beer class C; A. C. Nininger, Nininger's store, Ashland, restaurant license; Peter Negless, Long Side Inn, Talent, beer class C.

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