

ALASKA DAILY EMPIRE

JOHN W. TROY, Editor and Manager

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CIRCULATION OVER 2,000 DAILY

SWORN CIRCULATION STATEMENT FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 3rd, 1917.

The daily average circulation of THE ALASKA DAILY EMPIRE for the week ending March 3rd, 1917, was 2,209 copies.

The circulation for each day of the week follows:	
Monday	2,246
Tuesday	2,250
Wednesday	2,250
Thursday	2,169
Friday	2,162
Saturday	2,175
Total	13,253

The foregoing is a true and correct statement of the daily circulation of THE ALASKA DAILY EMPIRE for the week ending March 3rd, 1917.

W. E. BURFORD, Circulation Manager.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of March, 1917.

JNO. R. WINN, Notary Public.
My commission expires Oct. 21, 1919.

MR. SOWERBY'S ELECTION

The people of the First Division made no mistake in electing Isaac Sowerby Representative in the Legislature to succeed the late John G. Heid. Indications now are that Mr. Sowerby's majority will considerably exceed 350.

Several things are indicated by this election. The first is entirely complimentary to Mr. Sowerby. His plurality over one of the best, most deserving and strongest citizens of the Capital City and the First Division is a fine testimonial of his standing in the Division.

The circumstance that earnest partisan appeals were made for Republican support for Mr. Reck, concededly one of the most popular men the Republicans could have nominated, if, indeed, not the most popular, at a time when actual political strife is more tense than at any previous time in the history of the Territory, is significant. For weeks the people had been watching the belated returns from an election that was about evenly balanced and which followed a very strenuous campaign. Then came the anxious weeks of consideration by the canvassing board and an appeal to the courts, with Wickersham organs endeavoring to arouse a public sentiment in his behalf. To add to this situation came the Senate deadlock with the Wickershamites attempting to line up the Republicans in the Senate, with themselves in control of the party.

In view of this situation and the admitted strength of Mr. Reck the political indication of the 40 per cent. majority received by Mr. Sowerby is that public sentiment supports the present position of the Democratic party in this Territory.

While the vote yesterday was not large it must be understood that no organized effort was made to get voters to the polls, and only one office was to be filed.

HOUSE ORGANIZATION

The House of Representatives has done well in its organization. Speaker Hess is one of the ablest men of the Territory. He is not only a lawyer of fine attainments, but he is a successful miner and business man. While the present is his first session in the Legislature, he is a man of wide experience and versatile talent. That he will make good as a presiding officer goes without saying.

A. H. Ziegler, the newly elected Chief Clerk and Thomas E. Williams, the Sergeant-at-Arms, are excellent selections. Mr. Ziegler is one of Juneau's fine young lawyers and citizens, and Mr. Williams is one of the trusted men at the Perseverance mine, and a pioneer in the Territory.

Millard Murane is a former Nomsite, and son of former United States District Judge C. D. Murane. He, too, is a fine young man.

VOTING BY BALLOT

Those Senators and Representatives who contend that all voting in the Legislature should be by open ballot rather than secret ballot are right as to both theory and practice. The members of the Legislature are serving in a representative capacity, and their principals have a right to know how they are being represented.

The contention advanced by Senators Gaustad and Sutherland that the secret ballot protects the voter is all very well where a man is voting for himself and responsible only to his own judgment and conscience. When he is voting for constituents it is quite a different matter.

WAR AND THE GOLD SUPPLY

There are many congratulations just now being exchanged by optimistic Americans—which means all of us—upon our economic preparedness for war. Statements indicating our rapid increase in wealth and measuring its enormous total are being commented upon as if they settled the matter.

Preparedness for war, whether military, material or financial, is a matter of mobilization. It is not enough to have things. We must have them when and where we need them, to the very hour. And financial preparation for war means the ability to lay our hands, at any moment, upon an adequate supply of gold. Gold is the foundation of all currencies today and of all systems of credit; the place of ultimate financial strength is a place where you may always, if

you wish, get gold in exchange for bills or other valid evidences of current indebtedness.

England's financial leadership of the world is simply a phrase expressing the fact that at any time, for many years past, it has been possible for a man with a good bill of exchange to get gold for it in the London markets. The strength of any currency system is measured by its underpinning of gold—by the ability of the government to conserve the gold reserve.

This country has today more gold than any country ever had before; it has over \$3,000,000,000 worth. But it is not the gold that happens to have at a time of "easy money" like the present, but the gold it is assured of its ability to keep, and to use where needed in times of stress, that makes a nation strong financially. Of our \$3,000,000,000 in gold, one-half—\$1,500,000,000—ought to be under the control of the Federal Reserve system in order to furnish an adequate foundation for the credit structure of the country. The amount actually under such control is less than half that and of that sum more than a third is subject to withdrawal by depositing banks.

There is today about \$3,200,000,000 worth of gold in the Treasury of the United States. This sounds reassuring, but is actually misleading, for more than \$2,000,000,000 of it is held against gold certificates. That gold is not under the control of the government at all; it does not belong to the government; the Treasury is a mere warehouse for it; the real control of it is in the hands of the holders of those yellow certificates; they could present the mat the Treasury within the next 30 days, if so minded, withdraw the gold and ship it abroad, and the government would be helpless to prevent.

With the greatest gold supply recorded in history and with a banking system which is one of the triumphs of modern finance, the nation needs one thing more. It needs an adequate gold reserve against future necessary expansions of credit such as can only be obtained through the intelligent action of public opinion. Paul M. Warburg of the Federal Reserve Board, our highest American authority on foreign banking, has had his mind fixed upon this chief need of our financial system since his connection with it began, and has labored in season and out of season to awaken his fellow citizens to its crucial importance. It is time we responded.

England's intelligent guardianship of the central gold reservoir of Europe has made England the financial center of the world. We fondly imagine that that center is shifting to our shores. To make this dream come true we must take up the same responsibility. Mere wealth will never confer financial leadership; only intelligent and faithful trusteeship of the gold supply of mankind can do that. And only an adequate gold foundation can hold our commercial structure stable if subjected to the shock of war.

B. M. Stone, the well known newspaper publisher who sold his interest in the Seward Gateway the first of last month, has purchased the Forty-Ninth Star of Anchorage, formerly owned by John Heckey and John W. Frame. It is said that Mr. Stone expects to make the Star a daily newspaper at an early date. There should be room at the railroad town for two daily newspapers—she has one now, The Times. In extending congratulations to Mr. Stone, The Empire wishes him all manner of good luck in his venture.

Chief Justice Harry Steel, of the Cordova Times, continues to render long distance decisions on the contest over the Delegateship. His opinions on the evidence and the law are given with circumstantial detail, and the judgments refuse to allow exceptions or appeal.

The enthusiasm of the congratulations extended to Mr. Sowerby is all the more because he defeated one of the best and strongest men in Juneau.

LET'S HAVE A REAL ONE!

(Chicago Herald)
The Federal Trade Commission is about to start an investigation of the rise in food prices. It will ask the President to approve an appropriation of \$400,000 for that purpose. It proposes to cover every side of the food situation.

Good! Let us know at last that we are going to have a real investigation. The country has confidence in the Federal Trade Commission. Now let's have the facts. Let's go to the bottom—to the fundamentals—and really learn all that can be learned about the subject.

The problem is legal and economic. The question of whether there are combinations in restraint of trade must be decided. That has heretofore attracted the main attention. Now it's time to go more into the economic part—and go into it thoroughly. Are the people being compelled to pay too much for what they buy? Nobody can answer that until he can say with reasonable approximation what it costs to produce those things.

In some fields the trade commission will find plenty of data. The packers, for instance, can tell it exactly what it costs them to turn out their products. Government attention has encouraged accurate cost accounting in their case. But these fields are limited. In the biggest fields of all the work will have to be done from the ground up. There isn't a farmer in Illinois who knows what it costs him to put his product on the market today. There isn't one manufacturer in ten who has an accurate idea of what it costs him to run his business.

Let the trade commission start literally "from the ground up." Let it start with the farmer and find what production of everything, from eggs to wheat and cattle, means in terms of money and labor expenditure. He doesn't know, and nobody else knows. Then let it follow the product to consumption. Many people assume high prices don't start until they reach some large organization. From the economic standpoint they are just as liable to start at the beginning as anywhere else. Prices cannot be permanently below the cost of production under any circumstances.

The country is in the mood for an investigation that will be long and deep and thorough. It is tired of these continued flurries about high prices that get nothing except possibly a politician into Congress or fill of half-baked remedies that spring from attention to some other job or into the newspapers. It has had its fill of half-baked remedies that spring from attention to some other job or into the newspapers. Let's have an investigation that will enable the country to see it steadily and see it whole. It would be cheap at \$400,000 or \$4,000,000.

"BIG POTATO COUNTY"

(Seward Gateway)
With the Land and Industrial department of the railroad working in the interest of big potatoes and the farmers of the Matanuska valley section around Palmer, counting on putting in as large a crop as possible it is apparent that one section of Alaska will gain fame as the home of the delicious tuber which made Ireland famous.

In due course of time when this Territory becomes a State, it might not be amiss to name that section "Big Potato County."

President Wilson can well afford to lose the Nobel peace prize if he gains instead the united support of his own American people. —(New York Sun.)
If the Democratic donkey is to be transformed into the camel by Brother Bryan it will have to get a hump on. —(Milwaukee News.)

Fuller Bunk Says:



JUDGING by the kind of evidence they give in court, an alienist is a fellow who thinks the jury is crazy.

BITS OF BY-PLAY

By Luke McLuke
Copyright by Cincinnati Enquirer.

My, My!
There are not many in some towns. But you can always C. A. Coon in Urbana, Ohio.

Aw, Gwan!
No, dear reader, Pink White is not a girl. He hauls coal in Aurora, Missouri.

Yes, But Whaddy Ya Mean?
Sign in Angola, Ind.:
"Anchor in Angola!"
"The Angola Monument Company."

Isn't That Nice!
We thought that the olives came from California, but you can find Olive Trees in Paulding, Ohio.

Haw, Haw!
A modest high-school girl, while copying a passage from Sir Walter Scott, came to the line: "The horses stepped into the stream up to their bellies." And this is how her teacher found the line written when the copy was turned in: "The horses stepped into the stream up to their waists."

Oh!
Some girls are careful with their money. But what we started to say was that Miss Spenta Fortune lives at Hopewell, Va., and is a member of the Cottillion Club of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Why She Changed Doctors.
"What seems to be the trouble?" asked the Doctor, as he sat down beside Mrs. Nagg.
"I have a tired feeling," replied Mrs. Nagg.
"Tired feeling, eh?" said the Doctor. "Let me see your tongue."

Things To Worry About.
A bee's wings beat the air 300 times a second.

Names Is Names.
Olive Ina Towne lives in Tacoma, Wash.

Our Daily Special.
Hard Work and Good Luck Always Travel Together.

Luke McLuke Says
Men may be smarter than women in some ways. But a woman can pack more into a suit case than a man can get into a truck.

The lad that does the most howling about the trusts is the same fellow who would break a leg to get a chance to organize one of his own.

In every town there is a vacant store that some one is always opening up as a restaurant and then closing up again after a month of failure.

Another reason why a man can't understand a woman is because she reads the bargain advertisements before she reads the war news.

She figures that after they are married they will be able to live on his salary because he will do without a lot of things he needs. And he figures the same thing about her. Then they get married and both refuse to deny themselves, and the trouble begins.

What has become of the old-fashioned motherly woman who never buttoned anything that she could pin?

When a man imagines that he has pretty hair, other men imagine that he hasn't the price of a haircut.

The world is filled with men who are willing to do the grunting while you do the lifting.

A man never remembers all that he learned at school. If he remembers fractions he forgets how to spell, and if he is a good speller he is poor at figures.

We have always noticed that the loudest advocate of government ownership of railroads and telegraphs is the man who buys a railroad ticket about once in 20 years and who has sent and received about two messages in his whole career.

When a man tells you that he will take the matter under consideration that is his polite way of refusing you.

The farm hand who has to curry five horses at 5 a. m. when the

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Feb. 15, 1913	687,977.65
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Feb. 15, 1915	940,603.96
Feb. 15, 1916	1,260,163.14
Feb. 15, 1917	1,620,844.08

temperature is about 5 degrees below isn't going to get very enthusiastic over Winter Sports.

A man is in the same fix as a fish. If he keeps his mouth shut he is not so apt to get caught.

Once in a while you will meet a man who acts as if the Lord made a big mistake when He created the world without consulting him.

What has become of the old-fashioned woman who used to bake Johnny Cake every day?

Did you ever hear of an escape that wasn't a narrow one?

One hour of bad luck makes a man forget all about the six months of good luck he had.

QUAKER QUIPS.
(Philadelphia Record.)
Why throw bouquets at the dead? Pick out a live one once in a while.

A man can borrow about everything in the world except experience.

Love will find a way, but it takes something more substantial to pay the way.

It requires an elastic conscience for a man to stretch the truth without breaking his word.

Simply to prove that she isn't absolutely heartless, a girl may wear her heart on her sleeve.

It's one thing to set the world on fire but quite another matter to have your plans go up in smoke.

CONSTRUCTION OF NAVY WORK IS SPEEDED UP

Secretary Daniels Gives Hurry-up Orders to Rush Work on All Battleships.

FORCES ARE DOUBLED

Many Plants Promise to Go Ahead with Orders to Break Previous Records.

WASHINGTON March 6—Construction of navy craft by the Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Company, the Fore River Shipbuilding Company and the Electric Boat Company will be speeded up to the limit of the plants. Work on two battleships at Newport News already is proceeding under doubled crews at Secretary Daniels' suggestion and the offers of the other two companies to make similar steps met with the Secretary's hearty approval.

At the Newport News plant it is estimated that the battleship Mississippi, recently launched, can be completed by midsummer instead of January 1, 1918, as called for in the contract. The keel of one of the four new battleships recently contracted for will be laid on the slip vacated by the Mississippi instead of a merchant vessel, as had been intended.

Representatives of the Fore River and Electric Boat Companies called on Mr. Daniels, offering to rush work on destroyers and submarines for which they have contracts, setting aside other private work to that end. They were told to go ahead at full speed.

Warlike preparations now virtually are completed at the navy department pending the enactment by Congress of the proposed legislation under which the President may commandeer private plants, and, after that the President's decision to exercise his authority.

Offers of plants of all kinds and

of the personal services of the owners and executives continue. To the war department many of the larger units of the clothing industry have offered their services. Plants that have sought government work or made a military uniform have been placed at the disposal of the department.

VICTIMS OF SUB ATTACK PERISH IN COLD AT SEA

British Official Statement Tells of Total Destruction of the Steamer Artist.

RESCUE PART OF CREW

Several Die From Being Exposed to Bitter Weather; Buried at Sea.

LONDON, March 6. — The British steamer Artist, 2,570 tons gross, was torpedoed on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Sixteen men were picked up three days later in an open boat far from land and in weather of such severity that seven of the original twenty-three in the boat had died of wounds and exposure.

A British official statement, describing the loss of the Artist, says: "The pledge given by Germany to the United States not to sink merchant ships without insuring the safety of passengers and crews has been broken before, but never in circumstances of more cold blooded brutality."

The British steamer Artist, when forty-eight miles from land in a heavy southeasterly gale was torpedoed by a German submarine last Saturday.

In response to her appeal by wireless, "S. O. S.," "Sinking quickly," a patrol craft proceeded to the spot and searched the vicinity, but found no trace of the vessel or her survivors. Three days later the steamer Luchana picked up a boat containing sixteen survivors. The boat had originally contained twenty-three but seven had died of wounds and exposure and were buried at sea. The surviving sixteen were suffering from severe frost bites and one from a broken arm.

"The crew were forced to abandon their ship in open boats in a midwinter gale, utterly without means of reaching land or sneeze. Those of them who perished during the three days of bitter exposure were murdered and to pretend that anything was done to insure their safety would be hypocrisy."

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