

Kodiak



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Chamber Proposes Revision Of Bill Establishing Borough System In Alaska

House Bill No. 355, now being considered by the State Legislature for the establishment of boroughs throughout Alaska, came in for considerable revision by the Legislative Committee, according to that committee's report to the Chamber of Commerce at its luncheon meeting Thursday.

Chuck Powell, in making his report, stated the committee met Wednesday evening, and considered the bill. Jack Hinckel, a member of the committee, suggested striking out several of the clauses. One in particular was the clause establishing eight boroughs throughout the State. Hinckel also felt the powers of the borough should be designated by charter.

Powell stated he had phoned Rep. Peter Deveau, expressing the views of the group on the proposed bill. Hinckel, also, sent a copy of the bill as revised, and also a letter to the legislators from this district, as well as the proponents of the bill. Gray and Hurley.

Al Hochberger, chairman of the Industrial Committee, reported that Nixon's Dairy was installing equipment for pasteurization of their milk.

Chuck Weir, Chairman of the Transportation committee, stated that according to word received, the construction of a bush type airport is assured this summer. However, he said, should there be no action, his committee is going to follow through in an attempt to get it.

As regards to the proposed ferry system for Kodiak, he said, the bill to establish the state ferry authority, now in the legislature, if passed, would kill the ferry idea.

This, he said, would be detrimental to the growth of Kodiak. "We should take action," he said, "to defeat the bill in its present form."

The Chamber group voted to sponsor the crab festival again this year, and authorized the president to appoint a committee for the purpose. A discussion on the merits of the spring or fall as dates for holding the festival ensued. A dearth of crabs in late April was one argument which was countered by Roy Rickey, Alaska Fish and Game Agent here, who said crabs could be kept in live boxes indefinitely.

Land Hearings Here March 2-3

Land hearings here, are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, March 2 and 3, in the Courtroom at the Donnelley Building.

Hearings on the proposed regulations covering the classification, lease, and sale of uplands and tidelands are being held by the Division of Lands of the Department of Natural Resources. Copies of the proposed regulations are available upon request from the Division of Lands, 333 D Street, Anchorage.

Oral as well as written suggestions on the sections of the proposed regulations will be received at the hearings, but written suggestions are particularly desired.

Under the proposed regulations, land disposal will be through lease or sale. The acreage limitations have been considerably raised over traditional forms of federal land disposal; residence requirements on the land are not included; nor are cultivation requirements; all sales and leases are by competitive bids.

The regulations do not impose a limitation of one tract on the purchaser but rather encompasses a total acreage limitation which can be taken up in a number of tracts as they are needed. The leases or purchase contracts or deeds are completely assignable to other parties so land will not be in an

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No Agreement On Lottery Bill

Juneau (AP) Gov. William Egan has given no indication on how he'll act on the bill legalizing certain traditional non-profit gambling operations in Alaska.

The measure is now under study by Attorney General John Rader and Revenue Commissioner Peter Gatz.

The Governor said the discussion between legislators and the Administration prior to final legislative approval Wednesday did not bring complete agreement on measures.

IN ITS 33RD DAY

Juneau (AP) The 1960 legislature entered its 33rd day at Juneau Friday, with 12 new session laws on the books. Virtually all of the legislation enacted, including two bills signed by Gov. Egan, was classed as minor.

The House Thursday approved a memorial sponsored by Rep. John Longworth (R-Petersburg) urging the Interior Department to deny Southeastern villages the right to operate fish traps.

Battle Looms

Juneau (AP) The Employment Security issue is expected to reach the floor of the Senate today (Friday) with the introduction of the Commerce and Labor Committee substitute for the Governor's bill.

The Senate Committee met late Thursday reviewing the substitute bill authored by Sen. George B. McNabb. Newsmen were excluded from the review session by McNabb.

The Committee is expected to report the bill 3-2 "Do Pass." Initial battle, expected today, would be over whether to accept the committee recommendation. If it is accepted, it would have the effect of scrapping the administration bill.

McNabb's bill is expected to increase benefits and place tax on the total wage base. The Governor's bill provides no increase in benefits, and tax based on \$7,200 maximum and a variable tax rate based on employment history of each employer.

Urban Design Proposed For Road

A recommendation to redesign the plans in the proposed construction of the road through town was made to members of the City Council by Lee D. Hubbard, District Highway Engineer, Alaska Department of Public Works.

At a special meeting of the City Council Tuesday, Hubbard proposed an urban type of construction rather than the rural type, which was proposed at first for the Kodiak street project No. F-011-1(1). The urban design calls for gutters, sidewalks, and retaining walls to prevent leaching of fill material. The engineer contended the urban design, though a little more costly in construction, would result in low maintenance cost. It would be of particular advantage to owners

of abutting property, he said.

Edwin L. Mills, State Traffic Engineer, who was also present at the meeting, concurred with Mr. Hubbard, and also enlarged on several phases of construction.

In addition to Mayor Coon, Councilmen Frost, Spencer and Worth were present. No action was taken, as a quorum was not present.

Since the regular meeting Thursday was without a quorum, no action was taken then either.

Fisheries Meet At Juneau Mar. 3-4

Annual spring meeting of the United States Section of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission will be held in Juneau March 3-4. Governor William A. Egan said this week.

The invitation to meet in the Alaska capital was extended to the body at its last session by Commissioner C. L. Anderson of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at the Governor's request.

Anderson said the two-day session is expected to bring about the first disclosure of the results of analysis of biological data collected last summer during studies of North Pacific salmon migrations and racial stocks.

Discussions will include the effect of these findings in relation to the relocation of the provisional line limiting Japanese fishing in the North Pacific.

Anderson said the first day's session would be given over to a meeting of the Commissioners with the staff of biologists, followed by an evening reception for the Commission and members of the State Legislature.

The second day is expected to include meetings with members of the Legislature and an open session Friday night for the general public.

Members of the U. S. Section include Chairman Milton E. Brooding, San Francisco; Edward W. Allen, Seattle; John H. Clawson, Anchorage; and Arnie J. Suomela, Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife, Department of the Interior.

Work Begins On Harbor Addition

Work has begun on the construction of the floats for the extension of the small boat harbor.

Odin & Jessen, contractors from Ketchikan, in charge of the project, are hiring local help in the construction of the floats. The main float will extend out an additional 210 feet with additional floats 420 across.

Robbery Attempt At D. & A. Store

An unsuccessful robbery was attempted late Sunday night or early Monday morning when Donnelley and Acheson's store was broken into and the store's safe cracked partially open.

The front door was jimmied allowing entry, and the safe's dial knob broken off. The thief was unable to complete the job, however.

There was \$150 in the cash register, which was untouched.

Kraft's office and hardware department building showed similar signs of attempts to enter but there was no evidence of entry made.

City Police are investigating, but had no statement to make at press time.

Alfred Torgramsen Stationed At Yuma

YUMA TEST STATION—Specialist fourth class Alfred R. Torgramsen, 24, son of Mrs. Rika Torgramsen, Kodiak, is stationed at Yuma Test Station, Yuma Arizona. He is currently on duty with the Army Photographic Facility photo lab as a motion picture photographer.

He arrived here last March after a four month tour of duty in Korea with the twelfth signal detachment, photo section.

Sp. Torgramsen, who will be discharged from the Army next June, received his motion picture photographic training at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

The Yuma Test Station is year-round testing ground located in the Arizona Desert. Expansive ranges make possible tests on all types of Army equipment under desert conditions.

PLANES COLLIDE

A plane carrying a group of Navy musicians who were to take part in ceremonies during Pres. Eisenhower's visit to Rio de Janeiro, collided with a passenger plane in midair. First reports indicate all aboard both planes were killed.

Undersea Crab Ranching New Wrinkle In Study

Undersea ranching for controlled studies of king crabs is the latest wrinkle being developed by the Biological Research Division of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at Kodiak. The ocean floor is the ranch, steel framed wire-covered pens the corrals and a skin diving biologist, the crab herder.

The purpose is to gather biological information that will keep the embryo, dollar-earning king crab industry in the Kodiak-Afognak area operating on a sustained yield basis.

Although Department biologists have studied the king crab since 1954, successful management requires far more data on the animal's growth rates, feeding habits, migrations and reproductive biology.

When research biologist Guy Powell began his king crab research two years ago, he studied crabs by trapping them in pots and hauling them to the surface

for examination. For Powell this was hardly intimate enough. He felt that crabs like people could best be studied if you visited them in their homes. He purchased a skin diver's suit and headed downward into the undersea world to pay his first visit.

As crabs are nomadic in habit, Powell found it necessary to build pens to confine his crabs to a certain area to insure continuity to his studies.

Now when Powell flippers his bubbly way bottomward in his scuba (self-contained unit breathing apparatus) suit, he can observe his imprisoned tenants living in their natural environment on the ocean floor.

Powell tends 300 crabs in six pens that have a combined area of 600 square feet. A two-inch stainless steel wire mesh keeps the smallest crabs from crawling out and prevents outside crabs from crawling in and eating the

food placed there by the diver. The pens have no bottoms so the crabs can burrow in the mud or sand just as they might in their natural state.

Landsmen shudder when Powell describes his years around dives in northern waters. The temperature of the water is about 38 degrees in a 20-foot depth of water at low tide. The water is colder at 50 feet, but he can work quite comfortably for a whole hour at that depth and time passes quickly.

The suit Powell wears is made of neoprene. It is known to divers as a wet suit. Although the suit fits skin tight, water seeps into the suit under the wrist and leg bands. This is gradually warmed by body heat until the diver is actually encased by a thin film of tepid water. The suit, including pants, shirt, gloves, boots and head cap covers the body. Goggles fit over the eyes. Only the area a

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Loans Made To Alaska Fishermen

Funds are still available for loans to Alaskan fishermen, according to the regional director, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, John T. Gharrett.

Loan applications are not difficult to complete, and help in the form of advice and aid in completing the loan forms is available at the Regional Office in Juneau, according to the director.

The purpose of the program is to aid the domestic fishing industry by making funds available to finance or refinance vessel and gear operation, maintenance and replacement. Alaskan fishermen who have availed themselves of the program have used it to effect major and minor repairs and for repowering their fishing vessels as well as the replacement of lost or destroyed and obsolete vessels.