

# THE NOME NUGGET

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

NOME—The efficiency of women in public office will be demonstrated next Saturday morning when the local Girl Scout troop will take over the town from 10 until twelve o'clock.

Troop members will act as Mayor, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, City Attorney, City Clerk and the six members of the council.

After fulfilling their civic duties they will be guests at the Officers Club for a luncheon with their Scout Council and leaders.

At six-thirty Saturday evening the Troop will broadcast a specially prepared program over WXLN.

WRANGELL. (P) — Search for Harry Hart of Stikine Flats continued today after a coroner's jury identified a body found floating near Sokolof Island Friday as that of his wife.

The couple started for Wrangell in an open boat about Feb. 1 from their Stikine Flats homestead.

ANCHORAGE. (P) — An F-80 jet plane of the 66th fighter squadron crashed at noon today a short distance west of here, killing the pilot.

Tenth rescue squadron officials, who located the wreckage near the shore of Big Lake, said the pilot had been thrown clear but his body was found close to the plane. His name was withheld until next of kin could be notified.

JUNEAU. (P) — Braving the snarls of spinsters, Democrat William Egan introduced a bill to the Alaska House of Representatives last night calling for a tax of \$50 a head on single women.

He said its intent was to "further the institution of matrimony, relieve the housing shortage and levy a special tax on the privilege of being single."

The bill was referred to the ways and means committee.

SAN FRANCISCO. (P) — An earthquake shook the San Francisco Bay area early today, causing no serious damage.

But scores of burglar alarms went off, electrical fixtures swayed and rocks rolled off Telegraph Hill, and with considerable concern some San Franciscans recalled the great quake of 1906.

There were two shocks felt between 4:29 and 4:30 a.m., from the Santa Clara Valley, 60 miles south of San Francisco, to Sacramento, 90 miles northeast.

One house in the San Francisco Mission district, reported a water pipe broken as the house wall swayed.

Light fixtures at the Telephone building in the center of town swayed back and forth six inches.

JUNEAU. (P) — House speaker Stanley McCutcheon released today a telegram from Sen. Joseph O'Mahoney stating the interior and insular affairs committee "felt ample time has been given for all persons interested in Governor Gruening's appointment to express themselves."

"Nevertheless," he said he had

## LIFTING THE LID AT JUNEAU

Tuesday, March 8, 1949

(By James Hutcheson)

JUNEAU. (P) — The Senate passed a long-debated bill yesterday afternoon for collection of wage claims by the Territorial commissioner of labor at Territorial expense.

The vote of 12 to 4 came after two amendments were added to the measure. One eliminates footing of the bill by the Territory if the collection is above \$300. The other provides that a worker must sign an affidavit he can not afford to sue for the claim himself.

The bill now goes back to the House for action on the amendments.

The Senate also passed, 9 to 7, a bill limiting liability of bank stockholders and sent it to the House.

A third measure, approved by the Senate 15 to 1 allows Alaska officials to travel to the States at Territorial expense on urgent Territorial business if they have the approval of their superiors. The only vote against was by Sen. William Munz, Nome Republican. The bill, previously passed by the House now goes to the governor for his signature.

Ten bills were introduced in the Senate yesterday to beat the Wednesday deadline for filing.

In the House, which went into a night session, unanimous approval was given two bills. One, sponsored by Rep. Glen D. Franklin, Fourth Division Democrat, provides for establishment of a Territorial accountancy board to license all accountants. The other, introduced by Rep. Warren A. Taylor, also a Fourth Division Democrat, would regulate real estate operators. Both sponsors said their measures were for the protection of the public.

By a vote of 21 to 1, the House approved a bill appropriating \$50,000 for assistance needed by communities. Immediately in line for aid are Seldovia, Wrangell, Klawock, Petersburg, Cordova, Valdez, Haines and Sitka.

JUNEAU. (P) — The second House liquor control bill of the session—after the first died by indefinite postponement—escaped a similar fate last night and survived with all its alcoholic vigor to head the House calendar today.

Franklin's motion to indefinitely postpone the controversial measure was withdrawn to allow Atty. (Continued on Page Three)

told nine Alaskans opposing Senate confirmation of Gruening's appointment, "the committee allows you until Monday to state the nature of the grounds of your opposition."

He pointed out the nomination was received Jan. 27.

McCutcheon said yesterday O'Mahoney telephoned confidence that Gruening would be confirmed after a week's delay.

The messages were addressed to McCutcheon as head of the Democratic members of the House and Senate who urged immediate confirmation.

## Demo. Caucus Asks Re-Appointment Of Gov. Gruening

(By James Hutcheson)

JUNEAU. (P) — Democratic members of the Alaska legislature voted at a caucus late Monday to ask the United States Senate to confirm the re-appointment of Gov. Ernest Gruening immediately.

The caucus authorized four legislators, headed by House speaker Stanley McCutcheon, to telegraph or telephone the Senate interior committee and:

1. Cite the Alaska Democratic party platform's endorsement of Gruening.

2. Urge that the committee not recognize any Republican protests against the governor's appointment.

A statement issued by the party committee charged that only two Alaska Republican legislators had protested Gruening's nomination.

In Washington, the interior committee (Continued on Page Five)

## Alaska Railroad Asks For Bids On Building Program

ANCHORAGE. (P) — Alaska Railroad officials announced recently that bids on the road's record 1949 building program would be requested.

This year's work is part of a three-year rehabilitation job which is expected to cost \$75,000,000. The work, originally scheduled to last five years at a cost of \$35,000,000, was cut down to three years with the cost at first jumping to -50,000,000.

Col. John P. Johnson, head of the railroad, said the size of the 1949 program would depend on the appropriation authorized by Congress.

He said he testified before a House appropriations sub-committee as to why the railroad needs about \$35,000,000 for the current year ending July 1, 1950, to finish rehabilitation of the line into first class shape.

About \$40,000,000 already has been appropriated or can be taken out of operating revenues. That, plus \$35,000,000 requested, must Turnagain Arm project, which, when completed will be a key link (Continued on Page Three)

## Internation'l News At A Glance --

Tuesday, March 8, 1949

Communist Bulgaria today sentenced the four top defendants in her spy trial of Protestant clergymen to life imprisonment.

The other 11 defendants in the trial, which has aroused indignation among churchmen throughout the western world received sentences ranging up to 15 years.

The four leading defendants were sentenced additionally to loss of civil rights and confiscation (Continued on Page Five)

## Recommend More Alaska Public Health Funds

(P) Special Washington Service

WASHINGTON. (P) — The House appropriations committee today recommended \$1,300,000 for disease and sanitation investigations and control in Alaska for the year starting July 1.

President Truman recommended only \$1,000,000, a decrease of \$115,000 below the amount voted this year.

The committee said in increasing the amount in the labor-federal security money bill that a serious health problem had existed in Alaska for some years and is getting worse. It reported to the House:

"A recession in funds would materially retard what had been conceived to be a mass attack on the immense problems of tuberculosis, venereal disease, sanitation conditions including water supplies and other health problems. Therefore the budget estimate has been exceeded by \$300,000."

The program is a joint Territorial-public health service project.

## House Committee Approves Alaska Statehood

(P) Special Washington Service

(By Harrison Humphries)  
WASHINGTON. (P) — The House public lands committee yesterday approved statehood for Alaska and Hawaii.

One committee member voted against each of the two bills.

Rep. Morris (D.-Okla.) cast the dissenting vote on the Hawaiian statehood bill by Delegate Farrington (R.-Hawaii.)

Morris told the committee he had serious misgivings about this nation's reaching out and embracing non-contiguous areas as States. He said he is still studying the question and would be most pleased if he can "satisfy my conscience" and vote for the bill in the House.

Rep. Marshall (D.-Minn.) cast the only vote against statehood for Alaska. He said he is not opposed to the bill, but did not want the committee vote on Alaska "to be any different than that accorded (Continued on Page Seven)

## Odom Makes Record Non-Stop Light Plane Flight Honolulu To New York

TETERBORO, N. J. (P) — Big Bill Odom soared in from Honolulu shortly after noon yesterday, setting a 5,000-mile world's non-stop record for light planes.

The 29-year-old former world war 2 ferry pilot, already holder of the world-circling speed record, touched down his tiny monoplane at this north Jersey airport at 9:06 a.m. (PST), 36 hours and one minute after leaving Honolulu.

It was Odom's second attempt to bring his single engine, 185-horsepower plane non-stop from

## Bartlett Urges Appropriation For Nome Breakwater

(P) Special Washington Service

WASHINGTON. (P) — Delegate Bartlett of Alaska urged a House appropriations sub-committee today to approve \$1,020,000 for protection of the Nome, Alaska, harbor.

The amount was recommended in President Truman's budget for the year starting July 1. Bartlett told the committee that it would be divided, \$1,000,000 for a rock mount wall and \$20,000 for dredging the harbor.

He said the wall is needed to protect the harbor from southerly storms which are gradually eating away the beach at Nome.

Nome is the sole supply center for northwest Alaska, he said, and the army deems it important to maintain the harbor for security reasons.

Bartlett also asked the committee to approve an item of \$500,000 for continuing work on Wrangell Narrows.

## Rep. Fisher Asks For 'Ample' Radar Screen In Alaska

(By Charles D. Watkins)

(P) Special Washington Service  
WASHINGTON. (P) — Rep. Fisher (D.-Tex.) planned today to urge the House to approve an ample radar screen for Alaska which he calls "the most vital of all our strategic spots."

He said he would speak on the bill to provide a radar screen for the nation. He made his prepared speech public though uncertain just when he would talk.

He said in it that Alaska needs more troops for defense against any sort of an attack, and needs housing not only for the military but also for its civilian population.

"There is no question today but that Alaska is woefully underdefended," Fisher said.

"There is no secret about that fact."

The Alaskan Command has publicly stated that the Territory is presently vulnerable to enemy thrust and that defenses are presently inadequate to repel a possi- (Continued on Page Four)

## Odom Makes Record Non-Stop Light Plane Flight Honolulu To New York

Honolulu to Teterboro, which is about four miles west of New York City across the Hudson river.

He carried 288 gallons of gasoline.

The exact mileage of the long distance hop awaits an official check of his sealed instruments, but flight sponsors estimated it between 4,999 and 5,010.

Bill Odom, 29-year-old career pilot, came into prominence in April, 1947, when he and Milton (Continued on Page Seven)