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MINES AND PETROLEUM BULLETIN

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MINING ACTIVITIES

Northwestern - Mr. Michael J. O'Shaughnessy, President of Kennecott Copper Corporation, in a letter to Governor William A. Egan reported Kennecott will sink a shaft on its Ruby Creek copper property in the Kobuk region this summer. The company will move in 4,000 tons of freight and employ 40 to 50 men on the project, according to Mr. O'Shaughnessy.

Word from Nome indicates that Shell Oil Company has ceased drilling through the ice for the winter on its offshore prospecting permit.

Wayne Chambers bought Bill Munz's property at Bluff and plans to mine there this summer.

Southeastern - The Office of Mineral Exploration announced approval of an exploration program proposed by Bonanza Gold Incorporated on a development program near the old Jumbo Basin copper mine on Hetta Inlet, Prince of Wales Island. The loan totals about \$60,000, half of which will be paid by the company. Work is expected to start this spring.

Coal News - Coal contracts for military use in Alaska to date amount to 192,000 tons to the Evan Jones Coal Company and 325,000 tons to Usibelli Coal Company. The Usibelli contract is at \$6.05 per ton compared to \$6.13 per ton last year. Vitro Chemical Corporation received a contract for 25,000 tons of coal to be mined from the former Cripple Creek coal lease.

OIL NEWS

Since the last report the following applications for permit to drill have been approved:

Schrader Unit #1 - Sinclair Oil & Gas Company. operator: 682' F.S.L. - 2092' F.E.L. Sec 18 T3S R5E UPM. This location lies about 350 miles north of Fairbanks and about 40 miles southeast of Umiat.

Little Twist Unit #1 - Sinclair Oil & Gas Company operator: 1406' F.E.L. - 2053' F.N.L. Sec 34 T3S R4W UPM. This location lies about 400 miles northwest of Fairbanks and about 30 miles southwest of Umiat.

Middle Ground Shoal #4 - Pan American Petroleum Corporation operator: 360' E.W.L. and 1980' S.N.L. Sec 31 T9N R12W SM. This location lies in Cook Inlet approximately 1 mile north of the Shell Oil Company's MGS #1 discovery.

Middle Ground Shoal #3 - Pan American Petroleum Corporation operator:
 660' N.S.L. and 1980' W.E.L. Sec 19 T9N R12W SM. This well lies in Cook
 Inlet approximately 1/4 mile east of Pan American's MGS #1 discovery.

Drilling Activity:

<u>Operator</u>	<u>Well Name & Number</u>	<u>Status 4/28/64</u>
SOCO	Beluga River Unit #14-19	Drilling
Pan American Petroleum	Tyonek State #2	Drilling
SOCO	Naptowne Unit 24-8	Location
Union Oil Company	Kasilof #1	Drilling
Mobil Oil Company	Ninilchik Unit #1	Drilling
Sinclair Oil & Gas Company	Schrader Unit #1	P & A

Production, Swanson River Field, Hemlock Zone:

	<u>Producing Wells</u>	<u>Oil-Barrels</u>	<u>Gas (MCF)</u>
March, 1964	53	858,811	235,799
Cumulative to April 1, 1964		30,793,935	6,724,507

Production, Kenai Gas Field:

March, 1964	2	449,58
Cumulative to April 1, 1964		6,182,727

Production, Sterling Gas Field:

March, 1964	1	3,907
Cumulative to April 1, 1964		83,048

Production, Swanson River Gas Field, Kenai Zone:

March, 1964	4	395,301
Cumulative to April 1, 1964		6,041,893

Gas Injection, Swanson River Field, Hemlock Zone:

March, 1964	3	510,089
Cumulative to April 1, 1964		8,049,758

Production, Beluga River Gas Field, Kenai Zone:

March, 1964	1	28,830
Cumulative to April 1, 1964		101,483

NEW PUBLICATIONS

U. S. Geological Survey

Bulletin 1043-E, Recognition of Igneous and Metamorphic Rocks on Aerial Photographs of Chichagof and Krúzof Island, Southeastern Alaska, by J. S. Pomeroy.

Professional Paper 475-D, Short Papers in Geology and Hydrology. One article in this issue deals specifically with Alaska: Art. 148, by I. L. Tailleux, "Rich Oil Shale from Northern Alaska".

Map I-375, Geologic Map and Section of the Chandalar Quadrangle, Alaska by W.P. Brosge and H. N. Reiser.

WILDCAT WELL SUCCESS RATIO

The American Association of Petroleum Geologists report that fewer exploratory (wildcat) wells were drilled in 1963 than in 1962, but there was a success ratio in 1963 of 18.5 percent over 18.4 percent in 1962. The Alaska success ratio was slightly higher than the national average. The 1963 success ratio for Alaska was 18.8 percent.

AIME PAPERS AVAILABLE

Two of the papers presented at the recent Alaska AIME Conference at College contained excellent ideas for using known geological and mineralogical information for prospecting. These should be of wide interest to those concerned with mining exploration in Alaska. We have reproduced these papers in quantity and they are available free on request by mail at our Juneau office, Box 1391, or over-the-counter at our offices at Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Ketchikan. The titles are "A Possible Guide to Metal Deposits in Alaska" by Charles F. Herbert and "Tectonics and Ore Deposits in Alaska" by Gordon Herreid.

ANCHORAGE DISTRICT OFFICE OPEN

The Anchorage District Office is now open at 800 L Street. The Petroleum, Geology, Mining and Assay Branches are all housed at this address. The x-ray spectrograph was removed in good condition from the earthquake-ruined Mines Building and is now in use. Wet and fire assaying and geochemical analyses will not be done at the new location. Samples should be sent either to the Fairbanks or Ketchikan Assay Offices.

METAL DEMAND AND PRICES HIGHER

E & MJ Metal and Mineral Markets, the Wall Street Journal, and other recent publications have published articles that indicate metal prices are firming at higher levels. National Lead boosted domestic antimony 3½¢ in April. Tungsten moved up 25¢. Russia withdrew offers of zinc, lead, platinum, and tungsten. Zinc sells in London at an 11-year high of 14½¢ a pound. Platinum in London now brings \$136 an ounce. Mercury supplies are tightening and prices are expected to rise.

Copper is still quoted at 32¢ a pound, but prices paid recently were higher. It is expected that producers in Chile will raise their price 2¢ a pound. Some sales of refined copper were made at 41¢ a pound for delivery in May and June.

Futures prices for lead are close to 13¢, for zinc 14¢, and copper 35-39¢. A thousand tons of Bolivian antimony was sold in New York for \$8.20 per stu. There is apparently a drastic shortage of antimony ore. If this trend continues, some of Alaska's small high grade deposits will become attractive.

STATE LAND SELECTION NEAR FAIRBANKS

The Fairbanks District Manager for the Bureau of Land Management has announced that the State of Alaska has selected lands in the Eagle Summit area along the Steese Highway. The lands are selected under the Alaska Statehood Act which permits the State to select and obtain patent to public lands of the United States in Alaska, provided that nothing therein contained shall affect any valid existing claim, location or entry under the laws of the United States.

The lands selected include the upper drainage of Birch Creek from the mouth of Butte Creek to the head of Mastodon Fork and all of the Gold Dust Creek and Mastodon Fork drainages. There has been very little mining activity in this area in recent years; however, some placer claim locations have Affidavits of Annual Labor filed up to date.

Any mining claimant within this area who may wish to retain his claim under Federal control rather than under State control may initiate action to do so by filing his objections with the Land Office Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 516 Second Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska. This protest should include the names of the claims involved, where they are recorded, including the document volume and page, and an accurate description of the lands involved. Protests will be received until patent issues to the State.

Notice is given that the above described lands have been segregated since February 5, 1962 from all forms of entry, applications, and appropriations under the public land laws, including settlement under the homestead and similar laws, and under mining laws. Settlements and locations initiated on or after that date are null and void.

E. AND M. J. METAL MARKET PRICES

	<u>April 27,</u> <u>1964</u>	<u>Month</u> <u>Ago</u>	<u>Year</u> <u>Ago</u>
Copper, per lb.	32¢	32¢	31¢
Lead, per lb.	13¢	13¢	10.5¢
Zinc, per lb.	13.5¢	13¢	11.5¢
Tin, per lb.	134.75¢	134.50¢	115¢
Nickel, per lb.	79¢	79¢	79¢
Platinum, per oz.	\$88	\$88	\$77-80
Mercury, per flask	\$263-266	\$263-273	\$184-187
Antimony ore, per unit	\$7.00-8.20	Not Quoted	\$4.25-4.50
Beryllium ore, per unit	Not Quoted	Not Quoted	Not Quoted
Chrome ore, per long ton	Not Quoted	Not Quoted	\$36-38
Molybdenum conc., per lb.	\$1.55	\$1.40	\$1.40
Titanium ore, per ton	\$23-26	\$23-26	\$23-26
Tungsten ore, per unit	\$16-18	\$16-18	\$16-18
Silver, New York, per oz.	129.3¢	129.3¢	127.10¢
Silver, U. S. Treasury, per oz.	129.29¢	129.29¢	90.5¢

No.	Name	Sex	Age	Remarks
1	John Smith	M	25	...
2	Mary Jones	F	22	...
3	James Brown	M	30	...
4	Elizabeth White	F	28	...
5	Robert Black	M	35	...
6	Sarah Green	F	32	...
7	William Grey	M	40	...
8	Ann King	F	38	...
9	Thomas Lee	M	45	...
10	Jane Hall	F	42	...
11	George Young	M	50	...
12	Charlotte Adams	F	48	...
13	Henry Baker	M	55	...
14	Frances Clark	F	52	...
15	John Evans	M	60	...
16	Margaret Hill	F	58	...
17	Richard Scott	M	65	...
18	Elizabeth Turner	F	62	...
19	Samuel Phillips	M	70	...
20	Ann Walker	F	68	...
21	Thomas Wright	M	75	...
22	Jane Cooper	F	72	...
23	George Foster	M	80	...
24	Charlotte Bailey	F	78	...
25	Henry Jones	M	85	...
26	Frances Smith	F	82	...
27	John Brown	M	90	...
28	Margaret White	F	88	...
29	Richard Black	M	95	...
30	Elizabeth Grey	F	92	...