TUESDAY, NOVEMBER

MATANUSKA OFFICER
VIEWS IT AS BONANZA

Will Be Worth Its Weight in
Gold, Says Col. Hunt,
Ending Building.

Anchorage, Alaska, Nov. 5.—(P)—
The federal government’s Matanu-
ska valley colonization project
eventually will be worth “its weight
in gold,” Lieutenant Colonel Leroy
P. Hunt, United States marine
corps, project construction officer,
said today prior to his leaving for
Washington, D. C.

His departure marked the close
of the construction period for the
colony.

“The project is bound to be a
success,” he said. “Three thousand
families have applied for permis-
sion to join the colony.

“We have only scratched the sur-
fase by building shelter and phy-
sical equipment for future work.

“The yelling in the states by col-
onists who quit and who say the
project is folly is nothing more than
an attempt to justify their return-
ing.

“The germ has been planted that
will grow into a thriving plant and
prove that Alaska is capable of sup-
porting a population of three or four
million.”

The departure of Hunt with his
staff to report to federal authorities
in the national capital left admin-
istration of the colony in the hands
of a board of directors, consisting
of Colonel O. F. Ohlson, manager
of the Alaska railroad, president,
and other members residing along
the rail belt. Hunt said the coloni-
ists now are happy and comfortable,