61° 30' N. Latitude

149 15 W. Longitude

Vol. I

PALMER, ALASKA. SEPTEMBER 23, 1935 No. 6

# CONSTRUCTION OF LAST HOUSE GETS UNDER WAY

On Tuesday the sills for Lloyd Bell's house were laid, marking the beginning of the end of the huge home building program which the Colony faced last June.

A hundred and one houses have been roofed and all others are in various degrees of construction,

many almost completed.
Work on the barns is going ahead and fifteen, some to hold as many as twelve head of stock, are completely finished.

Things still hum at the Commun-. ity Center. The excavation for the school basement is more than half dug and the interior finishing of the hospital has been started. The bakery shop is up, as is the cob-bler's shop, but there is work yet to be done on both. The concrete floor of the big garage has been poured and trenches to carry the steam and water pipes network the entire area.
"A city grows where once a

wilderness has stood, "As Nature humbly bows her head to will of man."

#### POWER PLANT GETS TEST

About eight o'clock Wednesday evening a small group of men shouldered into the windy darkness along the road to the Center. Inside the power house a gasoline lantern was lighted, throwing into weird shad-ows the many pieces of machinery.

Bill Bordine stood beside the big red Diesel, turned a valve. Two hundred pounds of compressed air slugged into the cylinder. Slowly the big wheels turned. The huge engine barked, then purred to her full speed while the whine of the

generator grew into a steady hum.
Lieutenant H. V. Martin, in
charge of engineering, stood before a black panel covered with gadgets. He threw in a switch.

Above his head three electric bulbs glowed; at first they were only a dull orange in color, then

brighter, brighter. Electricity, with all its manifold uses in the life of man, has

come to Palmer.

LEGION DELEGATION - DRUM CORPS PAYS VALLEY A HURRIED VISIT

Because they had only four hours from arrival until the departure of their train, there were some expressions of disappointment among the forty odd legionnaires, ladies of the Auxiliary and Cordova Legion Drum and Bugle Corps members who paid the project a visit Thursday.

Everything possible was arranged for them by Mr. R. A. C. Atwood. Fusses met them at the train and they were taken for a tour around the loop, but as some of them said: "We saw just what is visible from the road; enough to whet our appetites and make us want to prowl back into the woods and see more of those beautiful homes."

After the ride luncheon was served and then the drum and bugle corps, snappy in silver helmets, white shirts and blue trousers, marched the length of the camp, playing snappy tunes that were familiar sto the many ex-service men who stood on the sidelines.

Stanley J. Nichols, 2nd Vice Commander of the Department of Alaska, reports a fine turn-out at the Seward convention. After hearing the plans of the members for an organization here he said Palmer would have a post the whole Territory would be proud of.

#### WAR CLOUDS GATHER OVER BLACK EMPIRE

Ethiopia has closed to commerce her frontier with Eritrea and Haile Selassie has massed all his troops in the northern provinces along the border.

Italy's government spokesman has stated that Rome has adopted a policy of patience and that the next move is up to the league.

If funds can be obtained from the Works Progress Administration Alaska will be included in the proposed census of vocations and businesses, according to a report from Delegate Dimond.

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#### A TRAITOROUS TIRADE

adkangalan-apawa tipinin apradaanyayan idad inaan inapawatapa dapa naani inapi. Bada dawa abah naan uniberhabu disamba. — Erapam na awar 1981 ilapi inapi (1911 - 1915 ilapi isaminapi igusi nagar galapigalan aber ibin indonegana dahi inan uniberhabu dibansulan dahiritari

"Like other relief measures the Matanuska colony is the product of idealism steeped in the sordid slime of rapacious commercialism, where political favoritism and a desire to grab while the grabbing is good have taken all but a tithe of the billions appropriated in a worthy cause."

The foregoing, appearing in the "Cordova Times," prompts us to ask a few pertinent questions. First, has the writer ever visited this project? Does he speak with authority or does he know only what he has heard in the biased reports of the disgruntled few who have quit the Colony because the jaundiced streaks down their backs couldn't be hidden, and as a result found themselves ostracized by those with guts enough to take a few disappointments and still carry on?

To whom does he refer when he speaks of "grabbibg while the grab-bing is good?" Has he seen the rec-ords of the money spent and the work accomplished?

And why is the successful rehabilitation of 175 families called:

"...idealism steeped in the sordid slime of rapacious commercialism.";...as he so sophomorically puts it?

By what stretch of even a politically distorted imagination does he place the following on the door steps of the colonists?

"The reports from Matanuska of a hold-up, attempted burglary and of hoodlums attempting to manhandle officers at Palmer, the center of the Colonization enterprise, serve to clarify the reason why Alaska as a whole has not warmed to the influx of a large number of people at one

Does he not know that the only arrests in the valley have been those of transient workers, brought to the Territory because there was not enough man power available; that the men who manhandled a Colonial policeman were of this group and were sentanced to six months each after pleading guilty?
The answer is: Apparently not:

#### ATTENTION YOUNG COLONISTS

Perhaps there is some boy in the colonist group who would be good enough to answer either one, or both, of the two lads who have written in asking that someone here enter into regular correspondence with them.

One letter, addressed to Mr. "Stew" Campbell, Government Man, is from M. F. Croman, R.F.D. #2, Quakertown, Pennsylvania. Croman is 20 years old and works on his father's 8 acre truck farm forty miles north of Philadelphia. He will send magazines and photos to any boy who will trade regular letters. He also knows some girls who want to correspond.

Another letter comes from Walter Kotch, 432 South Hancock St., Colorado Springs, Colorado. He, too, is interested in the making of this colony and wants someone to write. He is the son of an orthodox minister and a high school graduate. He is soon to join the U.S. Navy and will be able to send interesting pictures along with his letters. Walter is 21.

Due to the change in steamship schedules the Alaska Rail-road will maintain a weekly service all winter over the branch line to Rairbanks. There will be a daily train over the main line to Palmer, as usual.

> BOR'S TAXI

ANYWHERE

ANY TIME

SIX PASSENGER CLOSED COMFORT

office

KOSLOSKY'S RECREATION HALL

FOR SALE

TWO DUROC-JERSEY SOWS

BOTH ELIGIBLE TO REGISTRY

THE PRICE IS RIGHT

See Felton Palmer Post Office

Advertise in the PIONEER and get results. One hundred per cent circulation of the Valley.

Take a subscription...send it to a friend outside...they will be glad to know what is going on.

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#### -- COMINGS AND GOINGS--

The Taylor, Chief Engineer of the Alaska Road Commission, and George Parks, former governor and now Cadastral Engineer for the Territory, were visitors on business to the Valley during the week.

Mrs. Tom Walker, whosehusband runs the power shovel for the ARC, is at Palmer for a week's visit.

Mrs. T.S. McDougal of the Fern Mine drove down to Falmer Wednesday and was disappointed in finding that Doctor Follard, the dentist, wouldn't be back until Oct. 4.

Reverend Bingle, who attended the Legion convention at Seward, returned to camp Thursday.

Charles A. Watson showed his confidence in Palmer's future when he purchased two lots while on a visit Thursday.

Miss Galt, who will be school teacher at the Butte community, was also a Thursday arrival.

# MORE BUSINESS MEN SEE PALMER A PERMANENT CITY

Main Street, to give our Wusy road a name, is still stretching out as a business section. At the lower end rises a new 24x32 building, an expression of Bert Weeda in Palmer's ability to support a store carrying a line of drugs and drug sundries, kodaks and photographic supplies, candies, tobacco, electrical appliances and Grunow radios. Despite the additional freight, he says that outside prices will prevail as they do in the headquarters establishment at Anchorage.

Arthur Frodenberg, who operates soda fountain-restaurants under the name of Sally's Sweet Shops, has leased half of the Koslosky building and is now busily setting up his fountain, four booths and a counter. Instead of the light meals such as he serves in Anchorage he says that here he will set out "Three squares a day."

Both Mr. Frodenberg and Mr. Weeda expect to have their establishments open by the first of the month.

Koslosky's business has forced them to add another twenty feet to their store, permitting them to stock many articles of clothing and household necessities which their limited space heretofore precluded.

#### CHURCH NOTICES

Undenominational Services will be hold, with Rev. Patterson or Rev. Crabb officiating, on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the tent of Mrs. Perkins on E Street. On Wednesday evenings at 7:30 midweek prayer is held, and all are cordially invited to attend.

Lutheran Services will be conducted by the Reverend Mr. Frieling at 11 o'clock in his tent on A Street. Sunday school one hour earlier.

The Reverend Mr. Bingle will resume Community Church Services with Morning Worship at the Library tent on C Street. Both Service and Sunday school will be at 10 o'clock, the latter being held in a tent near-by.

Father Sulzman will hold Catholic Services at 10 o'clock in the Trading Post at Community Center.

#### NOTICE:

Whenever possible, please drop into Dr. Albrecht's office rather then waiting for him to call for the purpose of administering typhoid vaccine. It will facilitate matters, and the doctor is there every day from 9:30 till noon.

#### COLONY INTEREST ABROAD

That the Matanuska development is attracting attention even in Europe is evidenced by a letter just received by Dr. C. Earl Albrecht, in which a man and his wife have asked as to the possibility of them both securing employment in the new Colony hospital.

Letters still pour into the PIONETR office from all sections of the United States, asking for copies and information about the valley and Colony.

EXPERT PIANO TUNING -- ALASKAN

AGENT FOR KOHLER AND BRAMBACH PIANOS SALE OR RENT

SHEET MUSIC

RECORDS

. MAIL ORDERS A SPECIALTY
ANDERSON MUSIC SHOPPE JUNEAU

par galga kurtekanya taan 1966, 1866, sahujulan 1966, saki saka kayu - asi tara 1966 - 1866, Abril 1975, Pari

### "GET-TOGETHER" OUTING PLANNED

# FOR LOCAL SCOUT TROOP

Weather permitting, Jack Lund, Scoutmaster of Troop 654 of the Boy Scoutsesfeamerica, will take all the boys on a woodcraft outing to Lake Lucille on Saturday, the 28th.

Busses will be at the camps to the south of Palmer at 9 o'clock sharp. Those living to the north will be picked up as the caravan rolls on to Wasilla.

The Scoutmaster wants to see a hundred per cent turn-out, and he suggests that unless it is raining at the time be there to meet the bus. Cludy weather won't stop this meeting where you are scheduled to learn a few tricks about camping out that will come in mighty handy some day. Remember, Saturday, 9 A.M.

#### PALMER IS POPULAR WITH PICTURE PEOPLE

With harvesting and construction activity at the peak, the three outfits of movie makers here in the valley are in their glory. Scenes of every description are going "into the can" as the camera men put

Fred Fordham, official photographer from Washington, has covered the project quite thoroughly during the past week, but will remain another six or eight days getting every possible of the development.

Fred Mayer, who with Arthur Ramsey, is making a commercial short subject film of the Colony. He says he got some wonderful air views of the valley when he flew in Monday.

Mr. Ramsey is gathering much statistical material for use in the descriptive sound track which will be put on the film after they take it back to the States. Paramount, who was here earlier in the season, has been negotiating with them for the exclusive use of all shots to be taken.

W. O. Field, with his assistant, Russell Dow, arrived in Palmer Wednesday and is also an independent commercial movie photographer. He is out for such scenes as will give a clear idea of what is doing and what has been done.

Evidently people in the States are still interested in the Matan- EVERYTHING AT OUTSIDE PRICES AT uska Valley, and, being tired of reading so many garbled reports, want to see for themselves what is going on up here.

### DON'T FORGET THE BIG LEGION DANCE SATURDAY

The Matanuska hall has been reserved for another Colonist dance for Saturday evening, to be sponsored by the proposed Legion Post.

There will be no fee to the members of the Colonist group, but tickets will be one dollar to outsiders. Women will be admitted free.

It is at this dance that it is hoped to organize the permanent orchestra from among the many Colonist musicians. So be there, fellows, and bring your instruments.

As was stated last week, when the dance was called off because of the numerous house warmings, compensation will be arranged with the musicians chosen.

Saturday evening, the 28th. Busses will be at the various camps to pick you up at 8:30. They will also be there to see that you got home. Come shake a foot! Have a good time!

KOSLOSKY'S \* PALMER

Fig. can can accept a decay before a confidence of the confid

AGENTS RCA VICTOR RADIOS

BATTERY AND ELECTRIC

LIGHT HARDWARE

GUNS AND AMMUNITION

HIGH CLASS WORK CLOTHING

BOOTS SHOES PACS

BLANKETS QUILTS PILLOWS

DRUGS TOBACCO CANDIES

PAY OFF YOUR PRIZE FIGHT BET

FROM OUR STOCK OF FINE CIGARS

-- () --

Starting October 2 there will be posted at noon a daily bulletin of each world series game. A play by play account. Drop in and see how your favorite player is doing.

KOSLOSKY'S \* PALMER

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# CONSTRUCTION SET-UP DUE FOR MANY CHANGES SOON

According to present plans of Lt. Col. LeRoy P. Hunt the first contingent of transient workers will return to the States October 11, resorvations having been made for them on the "Yukon," sailing that date.

This group will be followed by an-

other within a week, and the third and last shipment of men will be made from Seward on the 25th.

in charge of construction, will leave with the last group and it is expected that Colonel Hunt and other members of rifle distance of their quarry the administrative staff will be returning about the first of November.

Construction of homes, main buildings, wells and barns will continue with Alaskan labor, but under a different wase scale.

As officials here point out, this is primarily a relief project and with the major construction phase completed the emergency which made it possible to employ Alaskans at wages fur in ex-fellow that weighed around eleven cess of those set by the WFA has been passed. A wage adjustment will go into effect about October 15, but at present it is impossible to state just what the scale will be.

Within the next month Camp Ferkins will be leveled to the ground and all hands will be housed at Palmer. Two barracks, each accomodating twenty men, have been built and three more are scheduled for immediate construction.

### SEASON'S FIRST CHINOOK SWEEPS UP THE VALLEY

That balmy, spring-like wind that we have had for two days has caused much comment among those not familiar with climatic conditions in Alaska.

Chinook winds, as they are called, sweep in off the Japanese Current and may occur at any season of the year. Even in the dead of winter you may go to bed with everything frozen up tight and awaken to find water dripping from the eaves and the two faet of snow reduced to six inches of slush.

How these winds get across the mountains without being ecoled off is a mystery, yet they do. Two or three Chinooks during a winter are not undomice in the Tanana Valley far in the interior.

The Chinook is invariably trom within a few degrees either way of direct south. It comes without warning, and, as far as we can determine, it does not portend any perticular climatic condition to follow.

#### BIG GAME HUNTERS LUCKY OVER WEEK-END

Last Saturday Emil La Walter, for many years a resident of the valley and famed as a guide and trapper, left in company with Francis Biggs by auto for the Willow Greek district. On Sunday there was a skift of snow up there in the mountains and they ran across the tracks of om Seward on the 25th. moose, causing them to change Captain Alan Perkins, who has been their minds about climbing after goats.

Just at dusk they got within and Emil dropped a hog-fat threehind the shoulder that could be covered with the palm of your han

His moose was exceptionally dark, being almost black, and drea out at around six hundred pounds.

Bill Eynske, of the Road Commission, also got a moose; a big hundred pounds and carried huge calmetted antlers with eight point

Eugone Carr bagged a fine specimen of the mountain goat, the her of which he is having mounted. It will be a present to his twelveyear-old son in the States.

LOST: M. Startzman, telephone line foreman, has lost a metal back elip-board with important papers attached. Will anyone finding it please return it to the General Office of the ARRC at Palmer?

# RITA REVELLE RECOVERING RAPIDLY

Friands of Miss Rita Revelle, Secretary to Mr. Carr who suffere a painful accident to her leg las week, will be glad to know that t injumy îs not as serious as was first suspected.

Miss Rovolle is still at the Anchorage Hospital, but it is hope she will soon be able to return t comp.

#### LEGIONNAIRES NOTICE .

Secretary Rex Atwood asks that all be at the meeting Friday the 27th at the Library tent. And don't forget, the big meeting wher permanent officers will be elected is called for the following Frida. Octorer 4, at eight P. M. sharp. Flease try and be there, fellows.