TRANS-ALASKA OIL PIPELINE
COLLECTORS’ ITEMS

Commemorative plaques and desk weights certified to contain oil from the FIRST BARREL OF OIL, received at Valdez, Alaska, from Prudhoe Bay, July 28, 1977:

WALNUT PLAQUES Distinctive and elegantly designed, each plaque is numbered for one of 799 pipeline miles. The map of Alaska is carved in bas relief, set off by inset brass corners and inscribed plate, raised lettering and miniature pipeline containing Prudhoe Bay oil. Size: 12" x 14" Cost: $200

DESK WEIGHTS Clear lucite desk weight measures 4" x 3" x 1" inches with red base. Tube of oil, pipeline mile and inscription in center. Cost: $30

True collectors' items, only 799 of each were manufactured. Register of owners maintained at Resource Development Council. Send check or money order to (Resource Development Council), Box 516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510.

For Alaska, Inc.

BOB HARTIG AND BOB REEVE

The Council lost one of its founders and a good friend in August. Bob Hartig, one of the co-founders of OMAR which later became Resource Development Council died in a small plane crash August 24, 1980 at Hewitt Lake. His friends in the Council mourn his passing. He was a lifelong supporter of the free-enterprise system for Alaska and continued to be an active participant in the council's work.

The following day, August 25, 1980, Bob Reeve, Honorary Advisor to the Council, passed away. Bob's friendship with the Council began at the outset for he, too, was a lifelong supporter of the network chosen to delete.

"Fusion" magazine, is particularly interesting because it contains unique items, collected by Bob Hartig and Bob Reeve.

"60 MINUTES" presented the project as a mismanaged waste of money. Since OGS refused to air Illinois Power's response to the show, except for a correction of two minor details, the company put together its own 42-minute point-by-point refutation of inaccuracies aired nationwide by Harry Reasoner of the program. The film, according to "60 MINUTES", is particularly interesting because Illinois Power failed CBS's filming and shows the network chose to delete.

Copies of the rebuttal are available by writing Harold Deakins, Illinois Power Co., 600 South 27 Street, Decatur, Illinois 62526. There's no charge, but mail a blank video cassette in either width, and if you plan to use it with a Betamax, specify the speed.

We'll order one for a future RDC meeting.
Allen Tesche said the borough would develop appropriate port facilities within the Point Kenzie area in connection with agricultural and other industrial uses. It would be primarily an export port.

The borough has made aggressive overtures to the Dow/Shell consortium to locate a petrochemical complex there, that, plus activities associated with the upcoming oil and gas lease sale 33, gives the borough confidence that its long-standing economic development efforts will be succeeding.

The area's most abundant resource is coal; deposits are relatively well-defined and are large enough to eventually support a six million ton per year market. The proximity to tidewater presents a significant advantage to serving Pacific Rim markets. In addition to extraction, gasification and liquefaction projects are being considered, and there is potential for processing the coal into plastics and synthetics.

Billions of tons of dry weight peat, which has a heating value similar to that of lignite coal, are believed to be accessible for recovery and use as soil conditioners and/or for energy related uses. Some 1.2 million acres of the borough are classified as commercial forest from which is producing over 20 cubic feet of industrial wood per acre.

Commercial quantities of limestone and other materials needed to produce cement are located in the borough, and significant interest has been expressed in establishing a cement industry at Point Kenzie.

Other minerals believed to be available in commercial quantities are cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, lead, mercury, nickel, tin, titanium, tungsten, uranium, zinc, gold, platinum and silver. Tesche said Kaiser Aluminum was exploring the possibility of processing aluminum in the borough and that a crude oil petrochemical facility was also being discussed.

Our congratulations go to the borough representatives for expertly fielding some 40 minutes of questions from the intersted audience.

Excerpts from a speech by Gerald J. Thompson, Secretary of the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services:

"We have a habit in this state -- in the whole nation for that matter -- a habit of turning our problems over to the government. "

"We're hooked. We're a society of government-service junkies... We allow problems to develop in in dealing with them ourselves... We lose skills.

Yet the borough continues to develop projects such as a 583-mile gas pipeline that would eventually deliver gas to the Rocky Mountain Overthrust Belt region to an eventual user. It is a project that would be expected to produce up to 800 million cubic feet of natural gas a day.

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The agricultural community of Kettleman City, California decided last year to eliminate the use of pesticides in favor of a more natural growing season. Similar to the "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes," the community has since been overrun with caterpillars. Until they build their cocoons and turn into moths, caterpillars are everywhere. They have eaten all the crops and are now into lawns, gardens, and flowers.

The situation has reached crisis proportions, with families being forced to stay inside to avoid being covered with the creepy crawlies.

According to California television news, residents have decided they prefer pesticides to the hairy creatures.

CIVIL WAR

The Northwest Mining Association newsletter for September is a special Alaska issue and carries an excellent editorial by Walter L. Mote, President, WLM Associates, Inc. Mote is former administrative assistant for three vice presidents, Rockefeller, Agnew and Ford. Now he is the Association's unofficial "man in Washington" and legislative assistant on Alaska land issues.

Mote's editorial this month carries the title "THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES - PLUS 120 YEARS". Mote sees the "war" as a result of the eastern industrial states trying to maintain superiority over the western states. This civil war shifts from a north-south to east-west brush. Warriers for the east such as Senator Tsongas want to look up enough western lands so the mineral resources utilized by the eastern industrialists will have to come from "emerging third world nations" ... which just happens to be a cheaper source with a tax break for the sponsor.

Mote turns the bright lights on the historical reasons for war between the states 120 years ago, and suggests that the same elements persist today in the east-west struggle for and against industrial growth in the west. It explains the "environmental" positions of Tsongas, Slobaling, Kennedy and Anderson, but leaves one wondering about the likes of Mo Udall from Arizona.

Since his contention is that this "war", like the last one, is economic and not over slavery or the environment, Mote concludes the candidates turn out on same November 4 to record our feelings and make it known where our sentiments lie.

FUEL, FUTILITY

A little refresher for those who have been too long such allegations in court because the cases can result in bad publicity. D.I.M. decided to fight. Last month it filed a $200,000 libel suit charging that Webb's account was "totally false and untrue, defamatory and libelous, intentionally and maliciously published."

An upcoming conference at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, will be of great interest to many RDC members.

FOCUS - NEPA, ALASKA'S COAL.

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY CONDUCTED AT STATE FAIR

About 500 people participated in RDC's public opinion survey the first two weekends in September. It was a lengthy questionnaire, and we appreciated the time and thoughtfulness given the questions.

A wide range of subjects was addressed - coastal zone management, offshore oil development, government spending, tax policies, Sayrebrush Rebellion, Knik Arm crossing, capital move, Susitna hydropower, regulatory reform, transportation, tidal power, forestry management, gas line financing - to name a few.

The survey is also being mailed to RDC members to determine how the opinions of our members and state fair participants correlate.

A similar questionnaire has been mailed to all candidates for public office to determine their positions on development and economic issues.

EDITORIAL

Eleven years ago Congress gave us the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and a bonus of the Coastal Special Protection Agency. Soon after we had added to that "environmental impact statements" became household words.

In the past five years the Resources Development Council has been involved with countless environmental impact statements. During that time we have had members of other groups - obstructionists will call them - actually tell us that no matter how well the environmental review is conducted, no matter how environmentally benign the project is, no matter how badly it is needed by society, they will still file a lawsuit to stop the development when the process is completed. And they do. The law is on their side. Obviously this abuse of power is incredibly frustrating to an organization whose goals are to develop a sound economic base in a clean environment.

What has occurred is that the NEPA process has become a breeding ground for lawsuits, with the groups supporting no-growth taking full advantage of the law; on the other hand, the NEPA process is being plundered by other mafia systems.

There are some similarities between both of these tried and more or less discarded systems and the so-called "public land" systems being promoted today.

WHO IS JOHN ANDERSON?

In a recent presidential preference poll in Fairbanks, John Anderson got a surprising number of votes. Voting federal land publics of today and some of us may have forgotten how it worked several hundred years ago in Europe.

The feudal system was prevalent in Europe between the 8th and 16th centuries and was both political and social. Its players were lords of the land and vassals, or serfs, who were bound to the soil by homage paid to the lords for use of land held in fee.

The serfs paid homage not only in produce of the land, but in military service to their lords. Lords on the other hand served their subjects with use of land and with "protection". The share to be paid to lords was generally determined more or less arbitrarily by the lord of the land.

In the 19th century in Sicily a similar relationship evolved between land tenants and what was actually a system called mafia where protection was sold and safety of tenants guaranteed, usually from being plundered by other mafia systems.

There are some similarities between both of these tried and more or less discarded systems and the so-called "public land" systems being promoted today.

long to its pervasiveness, which gives the federal government almost total control over what can be done at local and state level. Add it to that and NEPA to be such an extreme intrusion into a state's jurisdiction over its own lands, its own resources.

But that is where we are. Because of obstructionist activities supported by laws and the bureaucracy, getting almost anything done in the free enterprise system becomes "mission impossible."

Michael McGloesty of the Sierra Club tells us his group is devoting all its resources to stopping development in Alaska. Herbert Meyer, author of "The War Against Progress" confirms that Alaska has been singled out as a target by the no-growthers.

They are successful in what they try to obstruct largely because they receive help and comfort from elected and appointed officials. Working from both outside and inside government, the anti-business forces have made great inroads.

NEPA is bad enough, but that's just one law that is chilling our state's orderly growth. Add them all together, and you can see why we're in this predicament.

There is an answer. Get the laws changed and prevent other detrimental legislation from being enacted. This means we must elect representatives who care about the environment but who also understand the free enterprise system and will fight to WEBB claims he is not dismayed by the suit, saying, "It has spotlighted the problem better than we ever could have done." Some businessmen, though, feel that the case will have a sobering effect on environmental activists...
Our economy, taking away our freedoms and giving us little else in return.

by Paula Easley

"The real question... is not whether too much land owned by given entities (federal, state or local governments), but whether those entities are managing

the land correctly.

"In the case of the federal government the answer is simply that the lands are NOT being managed correctly. I cannot think of another landowner in the world who would be permitted the cavalier attitude toward land management that our national government has developed. If a timber company or the railroad industry owned vast amounts of land and prohibited even a modicum of recreational use--as the federal government does--the public would be outraged. But because the federal government owns it, many people assume that the land is being managed correctly. That simply is not the case."

"We must hope that America will never again overlook to the preservation movement and become intoxicated by its ideology, allowing politicians and others to use our country's potential, critical resources for their own self-interest."


"Perpetuation of poverty is this nation is NOT the result of tax policies but the result of a lack of jobs. If there is a direct cause of poverty."

"There are decidedly many reasons to believe that the (encouragement of more capital formation) is the most desirable of the (tax) proposals now under consideration. Tax changes designed to encourage investment in economic growth are urgently needed. By increasing productive capacity, the ability to buy goods and services the long-term impact of such tax changes would be anti-inflationary because more people at work would be producing higher levels of output."

Murray L. Weidenbaum, director, Center for the Study of American Business, Washington University, St. Louis.

In an executive summary drafted for public comment by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, environmental problems and methods for achieving and maintaining a healthy environment are discussed.

The summary reports that AIR QUALITY is excellent in Alaska except for the urban areas of Anchorage and Fairbanks. Both cities are designated as non-attainment areas for carbon monoxide.

The high carbon monoxide levels occur only in winter and are caused by automobile emissions.

The two cities have until 1987 to reduce pollution to safe levels but must commit to all necessary carbon monoxide measures by 1982. Various control measures are now being evaluated by these communities.

Elsewhere in Alaska there are isolated sources of air pollution affecting air quality only in the immediate vicinity of the facility -- sawmills, pulp mills, energy producing facilities and fertilizer manufacturing plants. These sources emit nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and particulates. To protect air quality, emissions from these sources are limited and inspected regularly to insure compliance with state and federal clean air standards. Agency programs are outlined in the summary, along with the conclusion that "excellent existing air quality and visibility will remain substantially unchanged."

The Resource Development Council is confident that existing laws and regulations and industrial technology will assure clean air for generations to come. We wish those opposing development in general that optimists.

The Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee has issued an updated power forecast for the Northwest. The forecast is more pessimistic than its previous forecast about the sufficiency of electric generating facilities in the Northwest to meet demands in the 1980's. Possible power blackouts, brownouts and mandatory curtailments are predicted.

Alarming energy deficiencies are greatly increased because of recently announced delays in completion of the five Washington Public Power Supply System nuclear plants under construction.

During the 1970's the Northwest experienced two severe dry spells, and under similar conditions in the 1980's, chances are 50-50 that blackouts, brownouts and curtailments will occur. This gloomy forecast holds even if interruptible supplies of power to aluminum plants and other industries are cut off, according to the Committee.

The report deals also with WATER QUALITY. It states: "Rivers, lakes and marine environments in Alaska have been impacted by point and non-point pollution sources. No area, no matter how remote, has been immune to impacts on water quality. Nevertheless, the majority of surface waters in Alaska now meet or exceed criteria established in the Alaska Water Quality Standards. The few instances of water quality standards violations are primarily due to naturally occurring conditions. High levels of turbidity and sediment are found in rivers from spring to early fall, when the rivers are affected by ice breakup and melting from snow pack and glaciers."

Isolated water quality problems in a number of areas associated with point source discharges of pollutants are attributed to placer mining operations, reservoir waste discharges and pulp mill waste.

Non-point sources of pollution in Alaska, while difficult to quantify, are attributed to construction and timber harvesting; in the Anchorage area urban stormwater runoff causes periodic water quality standard violations in several streams.

To handle water quality problems, five state and federal programs are in operation by ADEQ and EPA. One, the 404 program dealing with wetlands, handles dredge and fill permitting activities. The following quotes reflect the agencies' attitudes toward development:

"In the past year nearly 250 permits for activities in navigable water and wetlands have been issued and numerous unauthorized activities have likely occurred. It is estimated that in the past year at least 1750 acres of navigable waters and wetlands have BEEN LOST TO DEVELOPMENT."