

Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections

**Guide to Collection**

Ashby, Charles Thomas, 1899-1970

Prospectors' papers, ca. 1920's-1960's

MS 227

1 box (3 Notebooks)  
0.25 linear ft.

Processed By: Sean M. Lanksbury  
December 2006

**Acquisition:** This collection was donated to the Historical Collections in August 2006 by Leo Melvin Jones of Auke Bay, AK. (Acc# 2006\_61)

**Access:** The collection is available for viewing.

**Copyright:** Request for permission to publish material from the collection must be discussed with the Librarian. Photocopying does not constitute permission to publish.

**Processing:** This collection has been described at the item level. The collection's original order has been maintained. Charles Thomas Ashby's handwritten "Prospector's Views" was placed in Mylar, and all items were placed into pH-neutral folders.

### Biographical Note

Charles Thomas Ashby was born in 1899. He came to Alaska with the United States Army to work for the Bureau of Public Roads. He moved to Copper Center and died in 1970.

Senator Frank A. Aldrich was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1857 and came to Juneau, Alaska in 1893 during the Klondike Stampede. He remained in the Dawson Territory until 1899, when he relocated to Nome. Aldrich was elected as Territorial Senator of Nome census area, Alaska; Juneau, Alaska. Member of Alaska territorial House of Representatives 2nd District, 1913-14; member of Alaska territorial senate, 1915-18, 1923-26 (2nd District 1915-18, 1st District 1923-26); delegate to Democratic National Convention from Alaska Territory, 1916. He died in Sitka, Alaska on October 11<sup>th</sup>, 1930, aged 73 years.

### Scope and Contents Note

This collection consists of two separate recollections made by Ashby and Senator Aldrich of their time as prospectors. English to Chinook language dictionary is also included in this collection.

### SUBJECTS

Prospecting – Alaska  
Gold miners – Alaska  
Gold mines and mining – Alaska  
English language – Dictionaries – Chinook jargon  
Alaska – History – 1857-1959

### Inventory

1. Vocabulary of English-to-Chinook Languages [handwritten in pencil by Charles Thomas Ashby.]
2. A Prospector's Views (written at Reed Inlet, Glacier Bay National Park, Aug. 26, 1960) by Charlie Ashby [Charles Thomas Ashby. Handwritten in pencil.]
3. "Forty-Eight Years Observations and Adventures of a Prospector", by Frank Aldrich [Date unknown. Thomas H. Ashby's signature in pencil on inside cover. Charles T. Ashby's name on outside cover, dated 1938.]