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| Diary 47, 1939 | [Front cover] 1939. Diary of <u>James Wickersham</u> from April 27, 1939 to – October 24, 1939. |
| Diary 47, 1939 April 27 | <u>April 27th 1939.</u> Jack Hawkes is busy getting his Keku mining partners ready to go to the mines – silver, lead and zinc – on the west Kuiu island to do their assessment work for the year. They hope to go on May 1 st and expect an engineer sent out by their capitalist to appear here on May 18 th to examine the prospect and inform him – the capitalist – and then the miners – what values they have!! We all hope it comes up to their sanguine expectations – or we are all busted! Jack owes me 2 years rent |
| Diary 47, 1939 April 28-30 | -28 th – Grace is assisting me in the office – typing Ms: dark and foggy weather – raining. -29 th – My eyesight is growing dimmer & I will go to Seattle to consult an occultist in a week. Luther C. Hess, Fairbanks, was to send me \$204. ⁰⁰ a week ago but it seems lost in the mails – it will show up soon! -30 th - Sunday – Good walk with Grace & in the library the balance of the day. |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 1-2 | <u>Monday. May 1, 1939.</u> A beautiful bright day. Found my lost 8 th Alaska Report – Jack Hellenthal had it. He is as blind as I am. My friend Mike Sullivan came back from Cordova – on business. Tells me about the death of Louis Belter – character and friend. The SS. Alaska in from the westward – but did not bring Hess letter with the \$204 ⁰⁰ ! -May 2 nd - |

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| | In the office – nothing much! Hawkes & associates – getting ready to go to the Keku to do assessment work – next week. Dan Kennedy |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 2-3 | 2 back from Washington, D.C. with his McKinley Park troubles. Did not get a start on his suit, back with a new proposal!! which I must examine and advise about. -3 rd - Spent some time with Dan T. Kennedy discussing his plans to secure a game roadway from his 5 Acres in McKinley Park across the Nenana River, up Riley Creek to the big game hunting grounds toward the Mt. Hayes cariboo ranges. I suggest securing the support of Dufresne & Gov. Troy in aid of his project. He goes to see them. |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 4-6 | -4 th – Dan Kennedy has not seem Dufresne yet – he is out of town – but will be back tomorrow when we can get an understanding with him & get his assistance to persuade the Park manager Commerce to give such assistance as he will agree to – tomorrow. Dan is a forceful worker & will do the McKinley Park more good than they yet know about. -5 th – 6 th - In the office as usual. Bar Assoc. luncheon. Dan Kennedy with us at dinner Saturday 6 th . Working on his McKinley Park plans. |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 7-9 | -7 th – Sunday – In the office as usual. -8 th – We are waiting for a letter from Luther C. Hess – it came today \$204. ¹⁸ which gives us enough to pay for our trip to Seattle – to get my eyes open so I can see. Dan Kennedy is here and I am at work with him to procure an entry into the Park and out to the eastward – for his horses, & for hunters. -9 th - Dinner with Dan at the Gastineau Hotel. Harry Buchro and H.N. Ross called – they are on the boat going home to Fairbanks – Dan will go with them. Letters from |

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| Diary 47, 1939 May 9-10 | 9 O'Neill and Ruth – and Grace writing to both. Mrs. Wood agent for the Canadian Pacific called & borrowed my “Old Yukon” – will call at home on the 12 th to see my library Mrs. Frawley called & met Grace. -10 th - The weather is calmer today – the rain has ceased – it is better and more nearly spring again. The “ <u>Prince of Wales</u> ” is not ready today so the men will wait until tomorrow to go to the Kuiu – Keku – mine and We – Grace & I went down to the boat – but put off until tomorrow. She notified the – Northland Co. we would not go - she bought our tickets on the Alaska boats for next Monday. |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 11-13 | -11 th - Passed the eleventh of the month: to pay for the same: -12 th - I am getting ready to go for the [?] trip to Seattle on tomorrow. I am so blind that I ca hardly see and must quit my diary for the present. Grace has the home ready for the trip: we will be gone for several weeks while I try to regain my sight: -13 th - Am packing my grips, have secured passage and will go on the SS Yukon I will |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 13 | 13 close my office, leaving my books and furniture in the same, until I return. The house will be left in charge of the Hawkes and Mrs. Kerin. The Hawkes crowd of miners will go to the Keku mines for several weeks to do assessment work on the claims, while the Engineer will come here about the 18 th or 20 th to inspect and report on the mines – their extent, value etc. The Juneau Bar Association luncheon today at noontime. Judge LeFevre, President and Monagle secretary, present the usual numbers. |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 14-16 | -14 th - Sunday – We go to Seattle tomorrow – on the SS. Yukon at 11 ⁴⁵ -15 th - Left at 11 ¹⁵ for Seattle. Met some inside friends |

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| | from Fairbanks Had a bad fall downstairs in going down to dinner. Rolled over & was black & blue in spots. Today – the 16 th , saw Mr. Hunt at Ketchikan – early in the morning. -16 th - The weather has turned good as we passed Ketchikan. We have met Mr. Kirtland, from Anchorage & Mr. Leek[?] form McKinley Park, & Mr. & Mrs. Albright, from Fairbanks. |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 17 | Wed. May 17. 1939. Beautiful day. Expect to arrive in Seattle tomorrow. Thurs. May 18 Arrived in Seattle 7 a.m. Went to the Frye Hotel. Ruth met us there & we had breakfast together. Friday, May 19. Went to see D. Carl Jensen but he was out of town. Called up Mr. Strong of Ketchikan who recommended a Dr. Bull who had given Mr. Strong great relief in treatment of his eyes. |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 20-21 | Sat. May 20, 1939 Made an appointment with Dr. Bull for Monday. Recd a letter from Darrell. Sunday, May 21. Ruth, Grace and I went out to see Mr. & Mrs. Faucher and Belle. Ruth's mother is much better. Monday, May 21. Dr. Bull examined my left eye & said it was a little cloudy from a cataract which was developing. Gave me clouded glass to wear over it & suggested my trying to read using my right eye |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 21-24 | 21 with the aid of some strong magnifying glasses. Not very satisfactory but am able to see to read by persevering in the effort. Met Mr. Bettles. Also P.T. Rowe, Bishop of Alaska. Tuesday. May 23. Called on West & Wheeler & asked him what chance there was of selling my two lots in Denny Hoyt Addition. Did not receive much encouragement. Wednesday May 24. Went to Tacoma. Called on Mr. Winden & signed an agree- |

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| Diary 47, 1939 May 24-26 | <p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p>ment to sell 4 acres of land west of R.R. track for \$300 - \$20 down & \$5⁰⁰ or more a month. Called on Sam Perkins.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, May 25</p> <p>Mr. Bettles called & we talked over his chances of getting a pension from Alaska. Made a date for him to come in on Friday for Ruth to take a deposition regarding his residence in Alaska etc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday, May 26</p> <p>Saw Dr. Bull again. He said the best thing to do</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 25-28 | <p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p>was to wait until the cataract was fully developed – then it could be removed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, May 27</p> <p>Mrs. Strong has returned from one of her yearly pilgrimages. We have an engagement to go out to the home of Mr. & Mrs. Bettles tomorrow.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, May 28.</p> <p>Went out and called on the Bettles this afternoon who live on 95 St. Had dinner with them & returned to the hotel at 7 P.M. Ruth came in & had dinner with us</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 28-30 | <p style="text-align: center;">28</p> <p>about 8 P.M.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday, May 29, 1939</p> <p>Was invited by Mrs. Henderson to a luncheon at the Olympic Hotel to address a group of women on Trails & Trials in Alaska. Ruth attended with us.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, May 30, 1939.</p> <p>Memorial Day and Ida's birthday. In the morning we watched the parade from the Frye Hotel. In the afternoon Ruth and I went out to the Museum to see the collection of jade which they have but found the museum closed.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 May 31-June 1 | <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, May 31, 1939.</p> <p>Called at Dr. Bull's office and he advised me to return later when the cataract had fully developed – then it could be removed. Paid his bill of 10⁰⁰ also the bill at the Columbia Optical Co. of 5¹⁰ for a reading glass.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday June 1, 1939.</p> <p>Mr. Winlock Miller called and talked with me regarding the purchase of my library for Yale</p> |

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| | <p>University. He took several lists of supplementary books with him & was to see me later. In the evening we</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 1-2 | <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>we had a few guests take dinner with us. Mr. & Mrs. Bettles, Mrs. Anna Hall Strong, Miss Lulu Fairbanks and Ruth. Mike Sullivan was in the lobby but refused to come to dinner as he said he had just eaten his dinner. We spent a delightful evening. Mrs. Strong and Miss Fairbanks gave accounts of their recent trips. Miss Fairbanks gave me some stamps which she had received in Vancouver when she attended the reception given King George and Queen Elizabeth.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday, June 2, 1939</p> <p>Ruth, Grace and I took lunch at</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 2-4 | <p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>a place on Broadway named the Russian Samovar. We then went out to the University where we met Mr. Smith the librarian & talked with him regarding the disposition of my library.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, June 3, 1939.</p> <p>Spent a quiet day. Ruth went out to Kent and we did not see her until Sunday evening. Wrote a letter to Darrell in the evening.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday June 4, 1939.</p> <p>Darrell sent a long distance call to know when</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 4-6 | <p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>we were returning to Juneau. Had dinner with Ruth.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday, June 5, 1939.</p> <p>Mr. Bettles came in late Monday afternoon. He signed an affidavit trying to secure a pension. Mrs. Bettles is not very well. We went to the funeral services of Mr. Ashley – who was mayor of Skagway from 1915 to 1925</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday June 6.</p> <p>Grace & I attended the Pioneer Association Banquet held at the Masonic</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 6-7 | <p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>temple. It was 50 years since the fire of 1889 which destroyed the City of Seattle. Ruth came in later & we went out to dinner. Saw Mr. Miller regarding sale of our Northwest Library</p> |

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| | <p>material. Mr. & Mrs. Whittiker called at the hotel. Mr. W. had been out examining the mine at Keku. Wednesday June 7, 1939. Grace went out to the farm and I stayed at the hotel. Mr. Miller called</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 7-8 | <p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>and we discussed the Northwest historical collection of books in my library which he is desirous of buying. He will call again tomorrow. Thursday June 8 Mr. Miller and I finally agreed upon a price of \$2200 for the greater part of my books relating to the early history of Washington, Oregon and California. He will call tomorrow to make final plans regarding the delivery of the books. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Bettles and Mrs. Christoffers called.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 9 | <p style="text-align: center;">Friday June 9, 1939.</p> <p>We are returning home tomorrow on the Canadian boat Princess Charlotte. All the American boats were entirely sold out. Mrs. Maloney & John called today. Also Albert Kellogg a son of Dr. John Coe Kellogg who was one of the early pioneers. Mr. Miller called and paid \$100 on the purchase price of the books – the balance to be paid upon receipt and examination of the same. Ruth, Grace and I</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 9-11 | <p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>went out to dinner together. Later we called at the Alaska Yukon Pioneer meeting and gave them copies of my Bibliography of Alaskan Literature and of Old Yukon. Saturday, June 10, 1939. Left this morning for home. We are taking the Princess Charlotte from Vancouver tonight at 9 o'clock. The boat is very crowded. Sunday, June 11, 1939. Met a cousin of Mr. Orton's – a Mr. Wilber and Mrs. Wilber who are round trippers on the boat.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 11-13 | <p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p>Stopped at Alert Bay about 10 a.m. Monday, June 12 Arrived at Prince Rupert this morning and stayed several hours. Met a New York man who is going to take the trip down the Yukon. His name is Ernst</p> |

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| | <p>Oberhumer Tuesday June 13 We left Ketchikan last night about 10 P.M. and expect to be home this afternoon. The boat is calling in at Taku Glacier for the benefit of the tourists</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 14-15 | <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday June 14, 1939</p> <p>Wednesday June 14, 1939. Jack & Helen Hawkes met us at the boat last evening when she docked about 8 P.M. Was very tired and so glad to be home. Thursday, June 15, 1939. Have begun sorting out the books which I have contracted to sell to Mr. Miller of Seattle. Jack has decided to go to Denver and pick up Mr. Whittaker's report on the mine and then go directly to N.Y. so as to see Mr. J.P. Morgan before he leaves for London</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 15-16 | <p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p>on July 1st. We are all anxiously awaiting the result of the assay & report of the engineer. Friday, June 16 Sent Mr. Bettles a message telling him that a pension is to be given him July 1st. A group of 236 newspaper men & their friends are visiting Juneau today. The Nat. Editorial Association – A Mr. Eck, leader of the crowd called at my office. I gave him a copy of my Bibliography, 1924. Latter Mr. W.H. Conrad, President – called & I gave him Bibliography & Old Yukon which I autographed for him at his request</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 16-17 | <p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>and before the boat left Juneau for her trip westward another member – a young man going out to Naknek – and I gave him a copy of my Bibliography & autographed copy of "Old Yukon" which he had purchased at the newsstand. It was a glorious summer day & the visitors were greatly pleased at their visit to the Mendenhall glacier. -Saturday, June 17th - I am practicing with my new glasses keeping my left eye covered & using only my right eye, and find that the right eye is weak from non-use for 20 years & just be aided by an additional glass to</p> |

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| | recover from its former strength. Its |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 17 | <p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p>former strength is slow to recover, but the sight is there – my left eye is failing – I keep it covered by a ground glass till the decaying sight is gone when the lens must be removed to agree with the right eye when possibly the two will agree and can be coordinated with each other, and give me good but weaker sight.</p> <p>Dr. Dawes gave me a physical overhauling today, says my heart beat – skips a beat and that I must be careful – climb no more hills or steps & reduce my eating that I must eat less cake & pies etc. etc. My blood pressure is too high & must be reduced etc. In other words be careful in all ways.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 18-20 | <p style="text-align: center;">-18-</p> <p>Sunday – Spent the day in my library marking and listing the books sold to Winlock Miller, Jr. Seattle. Grace is doing most of the work while my eyes are so weak that I cannot help her. We will box and ship them early the coming week to the purchaser thus reduce my library to one to receive Alaska books.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-19th –</p> <p>Same marking etc. as yesterday Dr. Dawes is giving me the “once over” by medical examination</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-20th -</p> <p>Hugo Bergstrom came in to have</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 20-22 | <p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p>me aid him in securing a copy of his citizenship papers – his were destroyed by fire when his house & contents were destroyed – sent him up to the clerks office.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-21st-</p> <p>A rainy day. Grace & I are invited to dinner this evening at the home of Mr. & Mrs. J.F. Mullen</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-22nd-</p> <p>A very pleasant and well served dinner at the Mullen's last night. Present Mr. & Mrs. Phil Bradley, Governor Parks, Mr. & Mrs. Allen Shattuck, Grace & I and our hosts. We men talked</p> |

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| | politics – the women & Governor Parks played cards – <u>whist</u> . |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 23 | <p style="text-align: center;">-23rd-</p> <p>Grace & I were invited to a cocktail party at Robersons last night – in honor of the Mr. Wilcox, Supt. of the Forest service. It was noisy and many cocktails were drunk!</p> <p>Mrs. Jack Hawkes just came in the office & told me she had a telegram from Dyrdaahl saying that Capt. Hosford & six men were on the Hawkes-Dyrdaahl mining claims near Kake “trespassing” & what to do? I asked her to go and see Stabler – she said he was out of town. I advised her to tell Dyrdaahl to serve notice in writing on Hosford to get off the claims that he had no rights there – she went out – her son Jacky was with her! Grace went to see if she could find her.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 24 | <p style="text-align: center;">-24th-</p> <p>Grace has finished marking & boxing about 400 of my old books – Oregon, Washington & California – and today they were shipped by freight to Mr. Winlock Miller, Jr. Seattle, Wash. I sold him these books that I might devote myself and my library to books relating to Alaska, and also relieve myself from the burden of purchasing and keeping so great a burden of books I cannot afford to maintain in the financial straits of today. I am devoting my labor also to writing the story of “The Golden Paystreak – Gold” from Cape Horn to Point Barrow.” am blind & need the help</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 25-28 | <p style="text-align: center;">-25-</p> <p>Sunday. In the library – blind but getting so I can see better.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-26th-</p> <p>Am growing better in the use of my glasses and can write some with difficulty.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday -27th-</p> <p>Mifs Verda Bras & Mr. Price called. Mr. Wilt called – his fathers book. Elsa Satazar called, costs etc. Mrs. Hermann will try the case for me, probably on Saturday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday -28th-</p> <p>Mrs. Lockman called & I endorsed my autograph in</p> |

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| | the same. Helen Hawkes is |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 28 | 28 acting badly because Grace and Mrs. Kerin are interested in what is being done by the old Captain & his son from Petersburg form Petersburg are doing. Dyr Dahl home last night – but no report form the mines at Keku! Stabler home – knows nothing – or wont talk. A special agent of the Dept of Justice called this afternoon and sought to procure some information from me against Judge Alexander I was cautious in my answers to his questions and gave him as little as possible. I referred him to Mr. Faulkner and to Mrs. Hermann. I told him that I |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 28-29 | 28 was both blind and to aged to indulge in complaints and had made none against Judge Alexander, though I did not defend him unduly. The only thing I did say was that I had seen him “soused” at the opening of the Baranof Hotel – but that he was not loud in his manner. That he was lazy was about the worst I could say. -29 th - Working on Ms. Golden Paystreak. Had Grace read copy relating to Doroshin prospecting in Russian America (Alaska) 1848-1858 – A lazy prospector with letters done on the work. No wonder gold was not found in the Territory. |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 30 | Friday June 30, 1939 [receipt for \$1.00] Same as yesterday! Subscribed for Republican – Al. Whites paper – paid \$1 ⁰⁰ & Received Receipt No 1. Grover C. Winn came in to tell me had been asked by the Special agent of the Dept. of Justice to tell what he knew about Judge Alexander drunkenness – a lazy disposition, etc. He told little – friendly to the Judge. Latter Mrs. Hermann came in and had asked to see the Agents authority – saw the authority & told him what she knew – fully & completely about his behavior, etc. etc. and later |

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| | Faulkner came in and told me the same story – bad treatment in cases etc. Evidently it is the whole story to the end |
| Diary 47, 1939 June 30- July 1 | 30 Holzheimer & Folta have made the story of his drunkenness plain, but I learned this from others! <u>Saturday, July 1, 1939</u> A man by the name of Cox, a 1/3 partner with Billion & his wife cam in to consult me about the Cobalt Mine near Chichagoff: I did not think he told me enough so advised him to come back on Monday! He was a millman and logger with the White River Lumber Co. at Enumclaw, Washington etc. His mining business at the Cobalt is in good shape – but he wants me to advise him as to his interests & rights. Mrs. Hawkes received a telegram form Jack in New York – there seems to some trouble in the assays & reports!! evidently the whole story is out. |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 2-3 | Sunday July 2 nd 1939. Hawks is having trouble about the assayers report. Reports same old trouble – the ore he wants is not in the rock in sufficient quantities. Most ore lacks it – and he is no exception! Mrs. Hawkes etc. -July 3 rd - Mrs. Kerin received a letter form her husband saying full assessment work has been done by workmen on the 32 claims – food is short & men will come home on July 1 st finished in accordance with time limit! As soon as Mrs. H heard this she scolded Grace & Mrs. Kerin – saying “Jack her husband had hired the men to carry on the work – if they quit they would loose their jobs & |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 3-4 | 3 etc. etc. there <u>July 4th 1939</u> Dyr Dahl, Jacks partner came to town for a boat to go after the men & the tumult subsided.” The 4 th parade – 160 U.S. Soldiers from Chilkat barracks, & all the boys in town were in the parade. The soldiers camped in the Territorial Agricultural building & had a gun shoot at the Mendenhall glacier. |

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| | My friends Hugh A. Morrison & Mrs. Morrison arrived in Juneau on this day on the Canadian steamer Princess Alice – we met them and took them to dinner – they refused to stay with us at ours |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 4-7 | <p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>and went to the Baranof Hotel & -5th-</p> <p>We took them out to the Mendenhall glacier & showed them the country & had them to dinner at the Baranof Hotel. They greatly enjoyed the ride and visited at our house. -6th –</p> <p>Spent the day with the Morrisons – introduced them to our friends – had dinner with them at the Baranof Hotel. Entertained them at our house – they met Mrs. Carol Beery Davis – talked over Copy right with her & Mrs. Maurice Johnson & advised them about copy righting their books etc. They, Morrisons, had dinner & will go home by way of Dan Francis in the morning. -7th –</p> <p>The Morrisons left – for Washington D.C. then home this morning. Met Todd & Mrs. Russell - a fine couple – who bought books “Old Yukon” – each as did Mr. Wray their friend.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 8 | <p style="text-align: center;">-8th-</p> <p>Carol Beery Davis back in my office preparing data & affidavit for completion of her book & dance etc to be finished on Monday, but the Empire Printing Co. and our affidavit same day. Printer would not finish it up today so I advised that it be done on Monday – the 10th, and all dates fixed on that day. The Saturday meeting of the Juneau Bar association met as usual today with a good attendance; adjourned early as several members desired to attend the Funeral of Senator Tripp – who passed away after a long illness.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 9-11 | <p style="text-align: center;">-9th –</p> <p>Sunday – mail with letter only from Darrell, San Francisco, Cal. Grace reads to me often. -10th –</p> <p>Letter from Darrell – brief, but glad to have it.</p> |

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| | <p>Nothing from Mrs. Davis about copyright of her book on Indian Music. -11th -</p> <p>Letter from Mr. Winlock Miller, about sale of books to him. He is dissatisfied with books – says they are not up to standard. Grace has written a compromise letter accepting his offer to pay for what he excepts & a lesser amount for what he refused.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 12-13 | <p style="text-align: center;">12 – 13th</p> <p>The letter Grace wrote to which I signed is as follows –</p> <p>[clipping] Dear Mr. Miller; Your letter of July 6 in regard to the condition of the books which I offered to you for sale has been received and I am sorry that some of them are not satisfactory. I have read over the list of the 30 items which you mentioned as not being up to standard on account of their having been repaired, rebound, being damaged or having missing parts. I am sorry that I neglected to examine the books more thoroughly but I realize that I am not a connoisseur of rare books and no doubt placed too high a valuation upon some of them from the fact of their having been in my possession so long. Since you say that there is a substantial amount of the material in which you are interested I will appreciate it if you will go over the list at your leisure and revalue them as I am willing to accept any reasonable offer. With the exception of item #238, Trial of Leschi which I ask you to return, I suggest that you hold the balance of the 30 items until some arrangement can be made for their disposal. I thing the amount you have arrived at for the balance of the books is fair,- and I am willing to accept the amount of \$1290, less the \$100 already paid. That is deducting form \$2200 (original price agreed upon) the sum of \$910 (2/3 of 1364) the proportionate value of the 30 items, leaving a balance of \$1290.</p> |

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| Diary 47, 1939 July 14 | <p style="text-align: center;">-14th-</p> <p>Mrs. Davis (Carol Beery) came to consult again about the differences growing up between herself and Mrs. Johnson (Maurice) about their joint efforts to copyright "The Ice Worm Wiggle" the music etc. It seems to me they are threatening to destroy their efforts to make good money out of the project, which is engaging the attention of a great musical authority in the Hollywood field. They are both particularly right particularly wrong. Mrs. Davis will come back on Monday to see me again – I will try to get them together & arrange their differences.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 15-17 | <p style="text-align: center;">-15th –</p> <p>Same as yesterday in the Davis – Johnson musical matter.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-16th-</p> <p>Same as yesterday – working in office – about blind – and fear that trouble is an infliction as to thought I cannot work without sight! Grace reads to me a great deal. A beautiful Sunday – at home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-17th -</p> <p>We are expecting Jack Hawkes to return home on the boat due on Tuesday. He reports that the assay of the mines he went to New York to finance was a disappointment & the partner interested are likewise disappointed.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 18 | <p style="text-align: center;">-18th –</p> <p>Mrs. Carol Beery Davis is having much trouble with her words and music on the "Ice Worm Wiggle" but is now waiting for a letter from her friend – a lawyer of experience for advice about the matter. She came to see me again today – but will wait for an expert letter to tomorrow's boat.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tues. -18-</p> <p>Many boats from the south in this morning – Jack Hawkes came but has not reported his results yet. Two Young men came on the boat who are interested in the mines which Jim York gave so much interest two years ago – in Berners Bay district – the "Horrible" & the "Mexican". They are from Indiana and represent the owners. I sent them to talk to York! who is a miner & interested in the mines.</p> |

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| Diary 47, 1939 July 18 | <p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p>Jack Hawkes tells me that the trouble arose about the assay – his assays (of the same rock) made in New York ran high – very satisfactory – but those made by the agent sent out to examine the property ran low – very unsatisfactory! Jack says the prospector is coming back immediately – with a new man to accompany him – to do the work of prospecting all over again – that the trouble occurred in the assaying – on assay was heated highly – the poor one too low – he high heat produced high values in zinc – the low heat little zinc! Received a clipping from the Seattle P.I. saying the Winlock Miller Jr. who bought my Northwest History</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 18 | <p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p>died in the Seattle Hospital about Friday after an operation! This leaves my trade with him in bad shape. He had purchased about \$2000, worth of books, but made objections to part of them by letter. Last week I wrote offering to meet his objections. I doubt if he received my letter before he passed away and I shall not bother his parents – will take the books back again! We received a check from O'Neill for last quarters sales \$254⁷⁴ which help us very much – my eyes are promising to get better & I have hope that I will recover my better eye sight. Also letter from Darrell - & Ruth – glad to get both.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 July 19 | <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday July 19</p> <p>Same as yesterday. We had a pleasant visit last night from Mrs. Yates, tourist, author, who is preparing a new book on Alaska, and Mr. & Mrs. we spent a pleasant hour in the library. // Received a telegram from younger brother of Winlock Miller, Jr. with drawing agreement of deceased brother to buy my books – says letter will follow. <u>Of course I have no intention to insist on sale now that Winlock's dead. I will leave the books in Seattle in the hope of making a new contract.</u> Reported that the <u>asst. atty. General</u> came to town on the boat last evening: to consult with Judge Alexander, Dist. Atty & Marshal!!</p> |

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| <p>Diary 47, 1939 July 20</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday July 20, 1939.</p> <p>Had a long conversation last night – with Jack Hawks at my home last night – present Hawks his wife and Mrs. Wickersham, the latter is one of the parties owning an interest in the property know as the Keku Mining Claims – 32 in number located on Kuiu island – just S.W. of Kake on Kupreanof island. The mines are rich in zinc – great bodies of which are supposed to exist there. Jack has had much trouble with the engineers as assayers to establish the character of the rock – the assayers disagree about it. Jack had presented the mines to J.P. Morgan, of N.Y. & convinced him of their contents</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 July 20</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p>He had induced Mr. Morgan to send a prominent & competent engineer out from Denver, Colo. to report on the extent and character of the ore – who reported adversely – no zinc. But Hawkes had sent many specimens of the ore to other assayers - & took ½ of the samples examined in Denver to the best assayers in Mr. Morgans own assayers in N.Y. All reported to Mr. Morgan that the ore carried 16% of high grade zinc – so Mr. Morgan held with Jack and has finally agreed to finance the project heavily!</p> <p>Also, yesterday, I autographed 50 “Old Yukon” – the book is selling well. – But we have so many friends & give away too many of the books – gifts – not sales.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 July 20-21</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p>A Mr. & Mrs. Hess from S.F. passed through Juneau yesterday on the steamer going south. Darrell wrote to Grace that they wished to meet us. She took the Hickey bus & went to the wharf at 10 oclock & called. I did not go.</p> <p>A Mr. & Mrs. Els, from Connecticut, called – going north to Skagway – newly weds on their honeymoon trip – to see the interior as far as Whitehorse. They said they had been induce to make the trip on reading “Old Yukon” which they carried with them.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday, July 21, 1939.</p> <p>As usual in the office. We need money very badly.</p> |

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| | <p>Our taxes are due and unpaid. Hawkes does not pay has not paid for more than 2 years!</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 July 21-23</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <p>I am blind – and busted. Grace is doing all she can to help. Our creditors are threatening to cut off our lights I cannot see to practice law even if I had business which I cannot do Cannot sell property.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, July 22, 1939.</p> <p>Juneau Bar Association Luncheon. Letter from Winlock Miller’s brother about my books – nothing except he returns the books – says he will etc,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday July 23rd 1939.</p> <p><u>Graces Birthday</u> – At home in library – 67th <u>Birthday</u> – she does not believe the Record!</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 July 24-28</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Monday, July 24th, 1939</p> <p>Nothing happened. At home in the library all day – Reading & writing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 25th</p> <p>Same as usual. Copying the Introduction to my effort to write the “Paystreak” of the American mines from the Cape Horn to the Point Barrow, after the style of “East conquerors.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-26th -</p> <p>Rains & storms have ceased & it’s a beautiful day. As usual in the office.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-27th –</p> <p>Same as usual in office.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-28th -</p> <p>Same as usual in office.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 July 29-31</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">-29th-</p> <p>Saturday Juneau Bar Association luncheon – good crowd but nothing of importance worth recording I am disappointed with its stories & want of talk on interesting subjects.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-30th-</p> <p>Sunday. Grace & I attended the Sunday play based on Strauss’ life and musical career. It was a fine musical – but I could not enjoy it for I could not see the players – but I could hear the music & enjoyed it – the music – very much.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-31st-</p> <p>In the office working – half blind. I paid Fox \$25⁰⁰</p> |

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| | for July rent |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 1 | <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday Aug 1st 1939</p> <p>In the office these rainy days writing out the Introduction to my Paystreak. I am getting to blind that I cannot even <u>think</u> correctly & of course cannot write as well as I ought to do. Ever since I had the first attack on the day I spoke at Seattle before the gathering of the druggists – I am slowly getting blinder and write worse. I received a nice letter from Darrell yesterday – or the day before. I must answer it. Also from Ruth about my books which I sent to Winlock Miller, Jr. who died before we had agreed on the price. His brother seems to be a fine man, also, and is doing what he can to close the sale satisfactorily.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 2-4 | <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, August 2, 1939.</p> <p>In the office working as usual – haltingly. -3rd-</p> <p>In the office as usual. Autographing many “Old Yukon” for people who bring them in. Also writing with bad eyesight in the “Golden Paystreak.” -4-</p> <p>More trouble about my books in Seattle. Am offered low price for some of them by Salladay – less than I paid for them 20 years ago. Ruth has them in charge and I am in need of the money – cannot pay freight for returning them to Juneau. Must sell part to pay expense of returning the rest to me.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 5-6 | <p style="text-align: center;">-5-</p> <p>It has been raining for a month badly weather yet but shows signs of breaking. Bar Association today. I feel compelled to go on account of my long friendship for Judge LeFevre. He comes to my office & waits for me every Saturday and I feel that I must go – though I do not want to. -6th-</p> <p>It is not raining – probably in honor of our Canadian friends who are in Juneau – early this morning on the S.S. “Dutchess of Richmond” from Montreal, Canada; the biggest boat that ever anchored in this</p> |

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| | boat |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 6-9 | <p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>Good weather though not sun lit. The “Dutchess” had a full load of passengers – out to the Glacier & all over town: A fine boat – but I could not see her except in outline. -7th –</p> <p>The “Dutchess” left the harbor last night – beautiful sunny morning. Same as usual in the office. -8th-</p> <p>Dull day – at work in office & trying to get going on “Paystreak” with one quarter of one eye! -9th-</p> <p>Carlson & Kirchan[?] – Taku River mining cases – made options for them \$5⁰⁰</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 10-11 | <p style="text-align: center;">-10-</p> <p>Carry on the Peter P. Doroshin Report of gold mining in Russian America – translation by Mifs written by myself in English! -11th-</p> <p>The town is so dull that I cannot see – or hear – what keeps it going. Business is dull – except in spreading the money the government loans the town for payment of salaries and public works. Even the Democrats are now cursing F.D.R. who is himself convinced that he is a failure as a business venture!</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 12-15 | <p style="text-align: center;">-12th-</p> <p>Letter from Ruth Coffin – but no facts about my books. Luncheon at Percys with the local crowd. Nothing of importance. -13th-</p> <p>Sunday – correspondence with Ruth – no conclusion. -14th-</p> <p>At the office – notes on Doroshin's Russian story of Russian America. It is very hard for me to see to write. Engaged on hunting up the land laws on purchase of homestead -15th-</p> |

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| | Working on Ms. Doroshin's prospecting in Russian America – about finished. |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 16-17 | -16 th - Same as yesterday. -17 th - Autographing more Old Yukons for Mrs. Stewart's book shop. Have finished Ms. Chap. for Doroshin's Report on prospecting Russian America. It was unsatisfactory childlike and the report of an amateurish – just what one would expect from a man not a miner, nor acquainted with gold mining. He was not even a prospector – a lazy incompetent boy! It is amazing that a Fur Company should spend their money so foolishly and so recklessly in a mining camp |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 17-21 | 17 or that the Russian government should base the value of Russian America on such a silly report. Seward was in luck to secure Alaska on such a feeble basis by the Russian government. 18 th Same as yesterday, raining. -19 th - Rewriting paragraphs on S.E. Alaska about Pitz, Harris and Juneau and Kowee. Had lunch with the Juneau Bar Luncheon. -20 th - Sunday – confined at home. -21- As usual in the office. Writing S.E. Alaska |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 22-23 | -22- My sight is disappearing rapidly. Still I work on reading with half an eye – the sight of my right eye is going fast. Grace reads to me. The Empire carried the following item on Saturday – [clipping] Sourdoughs Honor Judge Wickersham OAKLAND, Cal., Aug. 19. – At yesterday's election of the International Sourdoughs Association, Judge James Wickersham, of Juneau, and the Rev. George Pringle, known as the "Sky |

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| | Pilot" of the Yukon, now residing in Vancouver, were chosen Honorary Vice-Presidents. -23 rd - Working in the office as usual. Business these days – as usual! I am so blind that I cannot see the line to sign on without it is pointed out and well marked. Cannot read. |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 24 | <u>August 24, 1939.</u> My 82 Birthday! Am in good health, strong & vigorous, except I am practically blind from Cataracts which are closing my eyes! My right eye was closed by a Cataract about 15 or more years ago – and the lens in the eye was removed by Dr. Witmer in Washington, D.C. which he said would afford me some sight with glasses if the left eye failed me as it is now doing. The left eye is closing out and going with a cataract rapidly. In a few months I will have the lens in my left eye removed and will then depend on glasses to take the place of both lens. Received |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 24 | 24 birthday present from Darrell, 22 nd - \$50. ⁰⁰) dollars My taxes are doubled in the city. Telegram of congratulations from Ruth – stating display of books sent to Winlock Miller, Jr. & delivered on his death to Ruth attracting attention – thrilled her. Tax statement received – raised to \$9.500. on my house to my disappointment – but I suppose we will have "to pay the fiddler," but its too big a bill for what we received for it. I wrote Darrell a letter thanking him for check for \$50 ⁰⁰ on my 82 nd birthday. Representative Bland of Virginia with subcommittee |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 24 | 24 of Merchant Marine & Fisheries here to study our fisheries problems are here. Diamond is here with them – he is now against "Fish Traps" – which he supported during all the years he was acting as the attorney for the cannery trust in Alaska. He changed his mind when he became the candidate for Delegate & was elected on the opposition on that change! |

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| | I received a telegram of Birthday congratulations tonight from Andrew Nerland, Fairbanks, and a letter from George Gooshaw, Shishmareff Inlet, also Cake from Mrs. Wickersham and Mrs. Kerin – large bouquet from Mrs. Hermann, and a box of cigars from her husband, & a fine & flattering copy of an Editorial in the Fairbanks |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 24-25 | 24 newspaper the News Miner, written by my friend Chas Settlemier, congratulating me on my 82 birthday. The paper is owned & operated by Capt. Lathrop. The editorial was on my birthday – and it was loyal and friendly – to the limit. It gave me credit for all I had done for the Fairbanks country – the Railroad and the college, etc. and was strongly in my favor – too strong to please the President of the College! The day was a red letter day for myself! -25 th - As usual in the office. Still enjoying yesterday. |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 26 | August 26 th 1939. Twenty seven years ago yesterday on August 24, 1912. President Taft signed the bill “An Act to create a Legislative Assembly in the Territory of Alaska, to confer Legislative Power thereon and for other purposes” Approved August 24, 1912. Also the next night I gave a dinner at the Congress Hall Hotel, at which the House Committee on Territories attended with the Senate Committee on Territories in approval of the President’s approval, etc. etc. All the members of the Juneau Bar Assoc attorneys in Juneau attended and gave me a large Birthday Cake and |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 26-27 | 26 most of them made speeches congratulating me in appreciation of my service to the Territory and Delegate etc. [clipping] BAR ASSOCIATION HONORS WICKERSHAM ON 82 ND BIRTHDAY Judge James Wickersham, former Delegate to Congress, was honored at today’s luncheon |

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| | meeting of the local Bar Association, the occasion being the Judge’s 82 nd birthday, which occurred on Thursday. A birthday cake decorated the table at today’s meeting, which was attended by all Juneau attorneys and by several visiting lawyers. Speeches eulogized Wickersham’s long career in Alaska. -27 th - Sunday at home as usual. Listening at the radio about the threats of the Germans & Italy to start a war on Poland by Hitler & Mussolini The English & French are giving Poland support – and the war is postponed from hour to hour. We hope no war! |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 28-29 | -28 th - War scare in Europe may pass, but we do not know what will come. Helping Bill Richardson to get a pension – old sourdough form the Interior. Letter from Barrett Willoughby asking for some information for her next book. Old Mrs. Stanford came in to call – she gave me much information about the Indians and sourdoughs at Ft. Yukon Sent Chas. Settlemier – editor of the Fairbanks News-Miner copy of my Old Yukon & the Bibliography – a good friend. -29 th - Same as yesterday. Have asked Judge Frank Boyle to write a letter in answer to Barrett Willoughby’s inquiry about the |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 29-30 | 29 differences involved in the Homestead law and the apex provision of the mining law which she wants for use in her novel. Of course, when there is such a conflict in the Hd. and the mining law – the mining law governs – provided the apex is a substantial part of the mining claim. Hope she understands it! -30 th - Two days ago a very handsome young woman came into my office congratulated me on my birthday and introduced her husband. It was Gretchen DeLeo (Mrs. Gretchen Redman) just recently married to Mr. Herb. Redman. Grand |

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| | Ruler of the Juneau Lodge of Elks & her handsome husband. |
| Diary 47, 1939 August 30-31 | <p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p>I only knew Gretchen slightly but knew her father & Mother intimately They were long time residents of Cordova where her father was an officer and employee of the Copper River & N.W. Railroad since their marriage long before Gretchen was born. I was greatly pleased to meet them for they are a very fine young couple.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-31st -</p> <p>Received telegram from Ruth Coffin Seattle this morning saying that Garland and Collins of Tacoma are interested in buying books sent to Winlock Miller, Jr. Seattle with few extra books sent to Ruth for exhibition in Seattle & wanting to know prices! My friend Settlemier in the Fairbanks paper says</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 1 | <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1, 1939</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Greetings to Notable Alaskan (Fairbanks News-Miner)</p> <p>Eighty-two years ago tomorrow – August 24 – old Illinois gave to America a son destined to become one of the most distinguished in establishing her institutions and building an enduring empire within her largest territorial domain, Alaska.</p> <p>That son was James Wickersham, today Judge James Wickersham, most notable of contemporaneous Alaskans – now resident of Juneau, and approaching the sunset of life vigorous and enriched with memories of a life of extraordinary experience and achievement.</p> <p>Jurist, author, legislator and authority on many a Northland phase of life, few anywhere can claim a more varied career of service and accomplishment.</p> <p>Thirty-nine years of his remarkable life have been given to Alaska. His name has been indelibly written into the history of the Territory during this period of laying of the foundation upon which is being builded the future state or states within the borders of this vast domain now awakening under</p> |

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| | <p>the impetus of a new era of undoubted destiny.</p> <p>Coming from a pioneering family who early shared the conquest of the Pacific Northwest, young Wickersham winning his first spurs in public life in the Territory and later the state of Washington, came to Alaska in 1900. Commissioned as a judge, he set up the first district court that brought law and order to the great Interior Empire of Alaska – participated in the dramatic events incident to the establishment of Fairbanks, Nome and many other enduring gold fields and centers of present-day industry.</p> <p>A tireless worker, endowed with great physical strength and extraordinary mental caliber – a fearless fighter, hard hitter in debate, Judge Wickersham found time aside from all his service in public life to compile eight volumes of Alaska Law Reports and publish a voluminous “Bibliography” of Alaskan Literature;” make one of the most extensive collections extant of books, photographs, early newspapers and other historic records of Alaska – now one of the most treasured collections in Alaska.</p> <p>During eight years as U.S. District Judge and 14 years as Delegate to Congress his interest never lagged in the opportunity to gather and preserve what he could for future generations of Alaskans.</p> <p>He has given to Alaska perhaps more of lasting value than any other identified with her history – not the least of which will be remembered the Alaska Railroad and the University of Alaska, both of which came into realization by virtue of measures which he introduced and fought for through hectic sessions of Congress.</p> <p>The recent movement for establishment of a Wickersham Day in Alaska bespeaks an appreciation that should extend to all who know him. Today, irrespective of political affiliations, Alaskans everywhere may graciously acknowledge his great service-his loyalty and achievement on behalf of the land to which he has given his life and which he continues to make his home.</p> <p>Hail to the Old Roman and the grand old man of Alaska – eighty-two and going strong-and may he</p> |
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| | <p>survive to enjoy many returns of the day – a living symbol of the pioneering spirit of which he is the embodiment and inspiration to youth of a newer and greater Alaska.</p> <p>When I was about 8 years old about 1865, I remember very well the black funeral cloth that my father draped over the house at the time of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. I also remember the way we felt at the surrender</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 1 | <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>or capture of Vicksburg and the opening of the Mississippi river to the sea. As a man too old to enlist I went to Fort Vancouver, on the Columbia river to get my youngest brother, Frank transferred by the Astor Light Battery, on his way to Manilla, where he was stationed as an aid of General Merritts headquarters at the taking of Manilla for a time: my brother was later enlisted and served for nearly 2 years in the Great War etc. etc. At that time I was a member of Congress, Delegate from Alaska, and heard President Wilson deliver his great speech in 1917 in declaring war and listened to the roll call in Congress against Germany etc. etc. Last night</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 1 | <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>I sat with my wife Grace Elizabeth before my radio in my home in Juneau and heard Hitler deliver his speech before the German Reichstag in Berlin declare war against Poland in the War dated that day which begun the war against Poland and its allies! We heard Hitlers entire war speech and the translation thereof into the English language, and cheers of his Reichstag approving it. The war began by Hitlers troops – bombing Warsaw, Cracow & other Polish cities etc. etc. All these have given me a great War experience, though Ive never yet smitted gunpowder in any war! Am now 82 years of age in war.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 1-3 | <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>I was a member of the militia in Illinois – the Governors guards – in Illinois, though I was never in any war, Great or small.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-2nd –</p> |

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| | <p>Telegraph and Radio at noon today report – that <u>Dr. Ernest Henry Gruening</u> of New York has been appointed Governor of Alaska!! This will relieve John W. Troy, of Juneau, who has been suffering from old age and general weakness for two years or more.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-3rd-</p> <p>England & France declared war against Germany today On the Radio I heard Prime Minister</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 3 | <p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>of England <u>Chamberlain</u> speak of his declaration & also heard the President of the United States, Roosevelt report his declaration of neutrality! Report that the German submarine had sunk Athena American steamer off the coast of Scotland with 1400 persons about, more than 300 of them Americans returning home to avoid War on board. Later report says all were saved except 8 or 10 of the crew killed by the explosion on board. The list of survivors gave the names of my friend Bob. Blooms two daughters – students at Dublin University – returning home to Fairbanks</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 4-5 | <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -4th-</p> <p>All kinds of rumors continue to fill the Radios and telegraph officio Mussolino declares he will remain neutral – that Italy will be quiet but he is being pressed to say so clearly & positively – no result Japan the same. The Germans deny that their submarine boat sunk the Athena – that the explosion came from an English torpedo & so it goes!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-5th-</p> <p>Sat up half the night trying to secure data about the war between Germany and Poland – England and France but it was so hopelessly mixed up with the Censorship & rumors that it seemed impossible</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 5 | <p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>to get the strait of it for my diary. Anyway they are fighting like savages. The American ship <u>Athena</u> with 1400 neutrals enroute from England to the U.S. was sunk some 200 miles off the coast of England, probably by a German bomb from undersea boat that hundreds of her passengers were drowned! The censorship has been so</p> |

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| | <p>highly closed today that we got little more! Italy so far as declared her neutrality with the U.S. & half a dozen other nations that we get only little news. All Germa ships have taken refuge in neutral ports – fighting in Poland is fighting while France has broken through the German lines and is carrying the fighting to Germany</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 September 6</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -6th- 1939</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Seattle Post-Intelligencer Tuesday, August 22, 1939 Wickersham Book Collection On Exhibition</p> <p>An interesting and valuable exhibit of rare old books, now showing in the auditorium at Frederick and Nelson, tells in fascinating first-hand fashion the history of the Northwest of pioneer days.</p> <p>The collection of more than 300 volumes is the property of Judge James Wickersham – himself identified with early Washington History. Born in Illinois in 1857, Judge Wickersham was admitted to the bar in 1880 and in 1883 came to Washington Territory, where he practiced law until 1900. Under appointment of President McKinley he served as U.S. district judge in the Territory of Alaska from 1900 to 1908 and as delegate from 1909 to 1921, again from 1931 to 1933.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham has retired now from public life and is living at his home in Juneau, where he is writing autobiographical stories and books.</p> <p>Over a period of fifty years the noted jurist has been quietly collecting the recorded history of the Northwest and the exhibit now at Frederick and Nelson comprises the most significant of these documents. The collection will remain in the auditorium through August, and Judge Wickersham's niece, Miss Ruth Coffin, will be on hand each afternoon form 3 to 4 oclock to answer questions and talk informally about the various books and documents.</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SEATTLE SUNDAY</p> |

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| | <p style="text-align: center;">August 27, 1939. Wickersham's Book collection Displayed here</p> <p>There's a flavor of pioneer days in the Pacific Northwest clinging over a collection of books, magazines, public documents and several other publications now on display in the fifth floor auditorium of Frederick & Nelson - Judge James Wickersham's Northwest Collection, to be on view for another ten days.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham's niece, Miss Ruth Coffin, will answer questions about the collection each afternoon from 3 to 4 o'clock.</p> <p>There is drama, too, as well as pioneer atmosphere in the collection which belongs to Judge Wickersham, now retired from public life and living in Juneau, devoting his days to writing an account of his own experience in establishing the courts along the Yukon River during Alaska's rough, raw pioneer days.</p> <p>Included in the Wickersham collection, gathered together over a period of a half century, is an edition of the gospel according to St. Matthew, printed in the old Oregon Missions in 1845; a copy of Boulet's Youths' Companion, published in 1882 at Tulalip for the Puget Sound Indian Mission; an almanac for Washington, Oregon and Idaho from 1859 to 1873; governor's reports for the old Washington Territory, tales of the adventures of first settlers on the Columbia River, an 1885 city directory of Tacoma, discussion of martial law in Seattle in early days, and other documents.</p> <p>The war is on & we cannot get any news today, Censorship. No news tonight – except Hitler may take - & burn – Warsaw tonight.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 September 7</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -7th- 1939</p> <p>The British have captured several civil vessels & burned them – they removed the crews & had them agree not to enter the war again, first. But they torpedoed the "Athenian" at night causing the death of more than 100 persons – some of them American children men & women – fired on the</p> |

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| | vessel as they were trying to escape in life boats. They were unarmed, going from the seat of war – had no munitions aboard she was a civil vessel – English – not a war vessel. The captain of the under sea vessel (German) was guilty of murder & piracy and ought to be hanged for murder – for the vessel was a non –beligerent & the U.S. at peace with Germany English and not at war nor soldiers. |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 6-7 | <p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>The German sank the “Athenia” far at sea & gave them no assistance but fired on them in their life boats in violation of the law. If we had him in the U.S. we would hang him – the Germans did the same crime in the last war – they are <u>savages</u>, then and seem to be following the same course now.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept. 7, 1939.</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">{Sept. 7, 1939.} THE ALASKA DAILY PRESS <i>Greetings to Notable Alaskan</i> (Fairbanks News-Miner)</p> <p>Eighty-two years ago tomorrow – August 24 – old Illinois gave to America a son destined to become one of the most distinguished in establishing her institutions and building an enduring empire within her largest territorial domain, Alaska.</p> <p>That son was James Wickersham, today Judge James Wickersham, most notable of contemporaneous Alaskans – now resident of Juneau, and approaching the sunset of life vigorous and enriched with memories of a life of extraordinary experience and achievement.</p> <p>Jurist, author, legislator and authority on many a Northland phase of life, few anywhere can claim a more varied career of service and accomplishment.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 7 | <p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>Thirty-nine years of his remarkable life have been given to Alaska. His name has been indelibly written into the history of the Territory during this period of laying of the foundation upon which is being builded the future state or states within the borders of this vast domain now awakening under</p> |

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| | <p>the impetus of a new era of undoubted destiny.</p> <p>Coming from a pioneering family who early shared the conquest of the Pacific Northwest, young Wickersham winning his first spurs in public life in the Territory and later the state of Washington, came to Alaska in 1900. Commissioned as a judge, he set up the first district court that brought law and order to the great Interior Empire of Alaska – participated in the dramatic events incident to the establishment of Fairbanks, Nome and many other enduring gold fields and centers of present-day industry.</p> <p>A tireless worker, endowed with great physical strength and extraordinary mental caliber – a fearless fighter, hard hitter in debate, Judge Wickersham found time aside from all his service in public life to compile eight volumes of Alaska Law Reports and publish a voluminous “Bibliography” of Alaskan Literature;” make one of the most extensive collections extant of books, photographs, early newspapers and other historic records of Alaska – now one of the most treasured collections in Alaska.</p> <p>During eight years as U.S. District Judge and 14 years as Delegate to Congress his interest never lagged in the opportunity to gather and preserve what he could for future generations of Alaskans.</p> <p>He has given to Alaska perhaps more of lasting value than any other identified with her history – not the least of which will be remembered the Alaska Railroad and the University of Alaska, both of which came into realization by virtue of measures which he introduced and fought for through hectic sessions of Congress.</p> <p>The recent movement for establishment of a Wickersham Day in Alaska bespeaks an appreciation that should extend to all who know him. Today, irrespective of political affiliations, Alaskans everywhere may graciously acknowledge his great service-his loyalty and achievement on behalf of the land to which he has given his life and which he continues to make his home.</p> <p>Hail to the Old Roman and the grand old man of Alaska – eighty-two and going strong-and may he</p> |
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| | <p>survive to enjoy many returns of the day – a living symbol of the pioneering spirit of which he is the embodiment and inspiration to youth of a newer and greater Alaska.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 September 7</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, August 24 Judge Wickersham Reaches 82nd Anniversary of Birth And has Notable Career Record of Jurist and Delegate Covers Important Pe- riod in Alaska</p> <p>James Wickersham, lawyer, jurist, statesman and author, former resident of Fairbanks, whose home now is in Juneau, is observing today the 82nd anniversary of his birthday. So long continued and zealous have been his efforts in the development of Alaska that the suggestion has been made in some quarters his natal day be made a Territorial holiday.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham, active in the practice of law at Juneau, can look back on a notable career.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Born In Illinois</p> <p>He was born at Patoka, Ill., August 24, 1857, and was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1880. Soon afterwards he moved to Tacoma, Pierce county, Washington. He was probate judge of Pierce county from 1884 to 1888, and city attorney of Tacoma in 1893 and 1894. He was a member of the Washington state legislature in 1898.</p> <p>In 1900, he was appointed United States district judge for the Third Division of Alaska. He held the position until 1907.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Notable Work at Nome</p> <p>Notable work of his as a judge was performed when he was transferred temporarily to the Second Division at Nome, where he remained after the departure of Judge Arthur H. Noyes, from September 1901 to July, 1902, cleaning up a docket that was congested with a great deal of legislation resulting from the jumping of mining claims.</p> <p>In 1909, Judge Wickersham was elected</p> |

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| | <p>delegate to Congress and served six successive terms, or until 1921. Subsequently, he served another term, from 1931 to 1933.</p> <p>The record of Judge Wickersham's service in Congress is a history of the most important period in the Territory's history.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Some of Important Enactments</p> <p>Among the important bills he introduced and succeeded in having passed were those incorporating the city of Fairbanks; establishing the Territorial legislature; authorizing the location and construction of a federal government railroad from Seward to Fairbanks; providing or the granting by the federal government of four sections of land as a site for the Agricultural College and School of Mines, now the University of Alaska, and for the setting aside of Section 33 in each township in the Tanana Valley for the support of the educational institution; authorizing the erection of the Territorial and Federal Building at Juneau and of the Federal Building in this city.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Author of Several Volumes</p> <p>Judge Wickersham edited eight volumes of the Alaska Law Reports, compiled the Bibliography of Alaska Literature and is the author of Old Yukon, a comprehensive historical work of 514 pages, published last year.</p> <p>No man is more widely known in Alaska than Judge Wickersham. In the course of his political and judicial activities he has visited every part of the Territory, almost every little community. His host of friends over the wide expanse of the Northland from the quiet waters of the Southeast to the ice-clogged sea of the Arctic barrier on the north wish him many happy returns of today.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 September 8-10</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -8th- 1939</p> <p>War news too much censored to give details or information except the Germans & the Poles are fighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-9th-</p> <p>Sunday – Spent an hour or two in company with Grace at the office working out some data about Catherine I, who sent Bering party in 1741 to locate Russian America.</p> |

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| | <p>We had lunch at the Gastineau & spent the evening listening at the Radio for news from the War – nothing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-10th-</p> <p>Monday, heavy fighting reported in Poland between the Poles & Germans; English & French</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 10-13 | <p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p>invading the Siegfried in Germany. Naval war at sea between Germany and the opposing English & French. We do not get much news</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -11th- 1939</p> <p>War news same as yesterday. Received \$200. from Winden. Payment of bills, o.k.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sep 12th</p> <p>Same as yesterday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -13th-</p> <p>Reading the record in the case of the G.W. Carmack case. Testimony of “Marguerite Carmack” Briefs testimony & argument before the supreme court of State of Washington. Much interested in night & day reports from the battlefields in Poland and France <u>Poles</u> holding the fort.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 14-17 | <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -14- 1939.</p> <p>Same as yesterday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -15- 1939</p> <p>Same as yesterday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -16th- 1939</p> <p>Saturday – Bar Association Good meeting but nothing about the cavots in the law – Raining.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sep 17th- 1939</p> <p>Sunday – Much news by Radio form the War in Poland. The Germans seem to have crushed the Poles, but are having to abandon that easy victor, turning Poland over to Russia and returning to the French-German frontier to defend it against the English & French attacks – which seem to be victorious – as of today!</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 18 | <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -18th- 1939</p> <p>Bought four Indian Hoon-yah letters signed by officials (Skookum papers today form Charles R.[?] John. Hoonyah bay – as follows. Letter signed by Captain Coghlan, U.S.S. “Adams”</p> |

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| | <p>March 7,1884. - \$2⁰⁰</p> <p>Captain Glass, Wachusett Dec. 4, 1881. Wm Gov. Morris, Jany 30, 1882 Capt. Glass, Jamestown, Jany 4, 1881. The last letter is from Capt. Glass stating that school was opened in Sitka and asked Head chief at Hoonyah to send two boys to Sitka for school saying that their board & clothing would be paid for by himself. I paid \$10⁰⁰ for the four letters, and have added them to my mass of Alaskana.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 19-20 | <p style="text-align: center;">Sep. 19-20- 1939</p> <p>Am working on a letter to the sisters of John A (Jack) Sargent, Hd across the Bay from Juneau to assist me in securing evidence that he was an American citizen or else I must quit & abandon his right to the same – they live in Massachusetts – their father was born, I think, in or about Bangor, Maine, though Jack was probably born in Canada These women ought to know where – or they can find out. Jack is yet in the B.C. mental Hospital at Essendale, near Vancouver, B.C. His Hd is valuable.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 21-22 | <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -21st- 1939.</p> <p>Same as yesterday on Jack Sargents case. Grace is assisting me. I will write letters to every one of Jacks sisters & relations and if I can get data will push the case, if none exists it will be useless to follow it further, though Doneway thinks Jack was a citizen of the U.S. but he will not testify to it under oath.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sep -22- 1939</p> <p>Jack Hawkes received a telegram yesterday from Van Fleet – New York, which disturbed him very much about the value of the Kui-you island zinc prospectus – and at the suggestion of his wife and Grace gathered his</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 22-23 | <p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p>partner Dyrdaahl and other interested friends who advised him to go to New York at once to consider there the reason for Van Fleets information. They procured money for his journey and he left on the steamer at midnight for that place to find out was the matter – he packed up and left at once for N.Y. to find out what had occasioned the</p> |

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| | <p>trouble – <u>he went!</u> leaving his family at our home. Sep. -23rd- 1939. Saturday – Bar Association – Hair cut today Interested in the war & believe the Germans are busy losing on the Western front. Visited Dr. Simpson thinks my eyes are going to require treatment in two months.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 24-27 | <p>24 Sunday – home all day except a walk with Grace up the basin wagon road Sep 25th – 1939 Advice to Dr. Silvers – Dundas Bay extension of Glacier Bay – his right to a 5 acre tract. Sent by Garnick. Recd. \$10⁰⁰ -26th- Woodward (Woody) Atkinson, one of the miners from the Kui-yu mines, came in to see the sights. Is with us at our home Waiting for Hawkes – may go home to Miss. to visit his mother young fellow. 26 years -27th- Wednesday Same as yesterday</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 September 28-30 | <p>Sep -28th – 1939 Same as yesterday Sep -29th- Same as yesterday Wrote long letter to Darrell about politics and matters of family. Wrote a letter to Receiver at Anchorage about Jack Sargents Homestead & to Goshow about Jade & in answer to him about his letter to me about same matters at Shishmaref! Sep 30th 1939 Last day of September – my blindness is becoming more profound & worse. I still follow Judge LeFevre to the Bar Association but it bothers me greatly and I fear I must quit it.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 1 | <p>1 Sunday – Grace & I at the office reading George W. Carmacks letters and Briefs in cases after his death 1922. I have quite a collection of his correspondence – Kates also. He was first married to Kates older sister and after her death took Kate for his second mistress among the Tagish Indian girls. Kates older sisters name was Jennie and</p> |

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| | <p>she lived with George for only a year when she quit packing freight over the Dyea trail – died – and George took Kate, who was the mother of Graphie[?] Grace Carmack – who before Georges death in 1922 married Saftag[?] – Marguerite brother.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 2-3 | <p>Octo -2nd 1939 Same as yesterday. Got the 2333rd Pacific Reports, 942 In the Estate of G.W. Carmack – 942, for history of case. -Oct 3rd- In the Estate of Carmack -942. Wrote to West Publishing Co. St. Paul Minn. for 233 Pac Rept. asking for paper bound bound weekly containing G.W. Carmacks report of In re Carmack opinion of Carmacks case - & also similar opinions in same suits of latter cases in California reports in same cases, for historical uses, earlier & latter cases.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 4-6 | <p>-Octo 4- 1939 Same as yesterday for historians purposes – Pacific Reports -Octo 5th- Letter to Rev Grant, Carcross, Yukon Territory for more information about “Jennie,” the sister of Kate Carmack and the Sec. of State of Tennessee about the nationality of Senator Carmack – in the hope of finding about the citizenship of George W. Carmack – of Dawson. Woodward Atkinson left for his home in Mississippi – partner in the Kui-yu Mining claims with Jack Hawkes. Oct -6th- The first snow storm of the season. May be one by morning</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 7-8 | <p>Oct -7th- 1939 Telegram from Jack Hawkes to his wife says you you mines now look better. “Its off again – on again – gone again Finnegan” Major Albright, Charlie Taylors, lawyer partner died in Fairbanks yesterday. He was 83 years of age, a major in the Spanish-American war – a good lawyer, and insurance agent. Luncheon of the bar Association today at Percys</p> |

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| | <p>Restaurant.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Oct 8th</p> <p>Wrote to Mrs. Marguerite Carmack asking for data & personal life about George W. Carmack – address Andrew W.J. Balliet Exchange Bldg Seattle for delivery</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 9-10 | <p style="text-align: center;">Oct. 9th 1939.</p> <p>Monday – Working on address to be delivered tomorrow on the dinner to be given to Hon. John John W. Troy on his retirement us government for the from the Govonorship, from the governorship of Alaska, - when his successor Hon. Ernst Gruening assumes the office on reaching Juneau</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Oct -10- 1939</p> <p>A great crowd gave Governor John W. Troy a farewell dinner in the Gold room of the new Baranoff Hotel toniaght Mayor Lucas was the originator! Hon Jack Hellenthal was to act Master and many of us were speakers. We gave the gallant old Governor a fine reception, had a good dinner etc.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 11 | <p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE WEDNESDAY, OCT. 11, 1939 GOVERNOR IS PAID HONOR BY FRIENDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Troy, Retiring After Six-Year Term, Praised at Dinner Here</p> <p>Gov. John W. Troy, retiring Sunday after six years as Governor of Alaska, was honored last night at a testimonial banquet at which his good works on behalf of the Territory were saluted by nine speakers and attested by the attendance of nearly 200 friends, a throng which filled the Baranof Gold Room to capacity.</p> <p>The Governor, speaking briefly at the conclusion of the program, said the people of Juneau were in his opinion the finest bunch of people ever collected together in one spot.</p> <p>“I told somebody,” said the Governor, “that I didn’t make any promises when I became Governor. But I do make you one now. I am going</p> |

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| | <p>to stay right here in Juneau and work with you anyhow.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hellenthal Toastmaster</p> <p>Jack Hellenthal was toastmaster for the affair, introducing the speakers, each of whom was a leader in civic or territorial affairs, with brief remarks which added much to the occasion.</p> <p>George Parks, Governor from 1925 to 1933, welcomed John Troy into the ranks of “Former Governors of Alaska.” He said that if Gov. Troy had happened, under like circumstances, to have been last night in Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Sitka, Skagway, Cordova, Seward, Valdez, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Nome or any other place in the Territory of Alaska, e would have just as many friends attend such a dinner to honor him.</p> <p>Judge James Wickersham, Alaska Delegate to Congress for 14 years, commented on the “aid and comfort” furnished by John Troy, though he was a political opponent of the Delegate, in the long fight for home rule for Alaska. Judge Wickersham said he hoped the Organic Act, passed largely through the efforts of John Troy, Gov. Alfred P. Swineford and himself, would remain unchanged until Alaska becomes a State.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">City’s Thanks</p> <p>Mayor Harry I. Lucas expressed the appreciation of Juneau to Gov. Troy for his work on the City’s behalf. He read a sheaf of telegrams received from friends of the Governor who were unable to be in Juneau for the banquet but who wished to send in their testimonials anyway.</p> <p>Charles W. Carter, speaking on behalf of the Juneau Chamber of Commerce and the Pioneers of Alaska, said that unlike many of the Territory’s officials in the past, John Troy is an Alaskan and his heart is in Alaska.</p> <p>“The one bright spot in this resignation,” said Carter, “is that even after Gov. Troy goes out of office he’ll still be our friend and neighbor, John W. Troy.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mine Manager Speaks</p> <p>L.H. Metzgar, General Superintendent of the Alaska Juneau Gold Mining Company, remarked</p> |
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| | <p>that Gov. Troy had served ably and impartially “during six difficult and trying years.”</p> <p>Territorial Auditor Frank Boyle, representing Territorial officials and employees, said that “no officer ever ended his term of office in the Territory of Alaska with as many friends” as Gov. Troy.</p> <p>James J. Connors, Collector of Customs, observing that there are thousands of people throughout the Territory who would like to attend such a meeting honoring G. Troy, said there isn’t a hamlet in Alaska which does not have a monument to John Troy. He described the term of Gov. Troy as one of the brightest pages in the history of the Territory and said that “though he is retiring from active duty, he is not retiring from Alaska.”</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 11-12</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p>[clipping continued] (Continued from Page One) Long Service</p> <p>H.L. Faulkner, last of the speakers, said that John Troy’s “worth to the Territory cannot be measured only in the six years he has been Governor,” recalling his long service as editor and citizen.</p> <p>“There is no man in Alaska today,” said Faulkner, “who has contributed to the welfare, the well-being, of the Territory more than John Troy.”</p> <p>At Faulkner’s suggestion, the company rose to drink a toast to Gov. Troy, followed by a toast proposed by Hellenthal to “good, old John,” and finally, at Mayor Lucas’ behest, one to the Governor’s daughter, Mrs. Robert Bender, who was complimented by several of the speakers for her assistance to her father and service to Alaska.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Telegrams</p> <p>Telegrams read by Mayor Lucas at the dinner were as follows:</p> <p>From Archie W. Shiels at Bellingham – “I am deeply disappointed I will be unable to be present Tuesday night to pay my respects to Governor Troy upon the occasion of your farewell dinner to him. Alaska has been fortunate in many of her Governors but none I can remember has given her such intelligent service as our present one. The</p> |

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| | <p>people of Alaska, of whom I am proud to call myself one, owe to him a debt of gratitude that will be hard to pay back except by respect and affection. He has given our great northland the best years of his life and through overwork is now compelled to retire. It should be the earnest prayer of all that even in this retirement we will be able to call upon him for advice and counsel.”</p> <p>From Charles E. Jackson, Acting Commissioner of Fisheries, at Washington-“I wish it were possible for me to be in Juneau today to honor you for your long and faithful service as Governor of Alaska. On behalf of the Bureau of Fisheries let me thank you for the cooperation you have always extended us in administration of Alaska fisheries. Wishing you health and happiness.</p> <p>Greetings from Judge James Wickersham</p> <p>From Judge George F. Alexander at Ketchikan-“Sincerely regret cannot attend testimonial dinner honoring Governor Troy this evening. As citizen, friend and Governor, we universally recognize him as Alaska’s first and best loved citizen. Please include me in congratulations and all good wishes for a long, happy and useful life.”</p> <p>From Igloo No. 16, Pioneers of Alaska, at Ketchikan –“Igloo No. 16, Pioneers of Alaska, wish to extend their best wishes for recovery of your health, also express their sincere thanks for benefits derived by the Territory during your administration.”</p> <p>The Committee which arranged the testimonial dinner consisted of Mayor Harry I. Lucas, Chairman; Charles W. Carter, Tom Dyer, H.J. Connors, Horace Adams and Frank Boyle.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Octo 12, 1939.</p> <p>same as yesterday A very nice biography by a very pretty[?] Deb[?]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">James Wickersham</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 14-16</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">Oct. -14th- 1939</p> <p>Same as yesterday: Luncheon of Bar Association at Percys.</p> <p>Nothing new except an allied vessel sunk by a German U. boat.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Oct -15th-</p> |

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| | <p>Sunday – nothing new. Oct -16th- Hadland from Kilisnoo called nothing doing about selling to the Indians – Seattle Ed Ralston from McGrath boatman for Langley called going to Seattle also – 53 years last spring came to Alaska, one of my [friends] Knows Troy & Harry Watson.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 16 | <p>16 [Wickersham's writing is very hard to read now] Boats: <u>Bailey</u> & <u>Reefer</u> afterwards (Zelander) sifton[?] all these boats run the rapids <u>goddard</u> first boat that that run the Rapids, Capt. McMaster took the <u>Bailey</u> & the <u>Zelander</u> through the rapids) <u>Ora</u>, <u>Flora</u> & the <u>Nora</u> built on Lake Bennett – ran the Rapids to the Lower river. Juan <u>Dugas</u>, <u>Craig</u>, <u>Alad</u>. McCauley arrived on the <u>Becker</u>[?] at <u>Dawson</u> Knew "Siwash" George in 1878 – He was lazy & lived with the Indians. Thinks George first lived with Jennie – she then died & George "Kate" – her sister. George boss of the Indians – Kate carried packs over the pass for Klondikers. The "Pelly" a small steamboat was</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 16-17 | <p>16 built on the Yukon about 1883. She belonged to Harper & Ladue. She carried lumber from the [?] mils mill up and down stream. The first saw mill at 60"- Mile belonged to Harper & Ladue. – Harper & Ladue Ladue had a saw mill at Dawson in July 1900! I saw it working! <u>Ed Ralston</u> talked an hour or more & <u>Grace</u>, my wife, took it down in short hand for me Ralston has a fine memory! Talked freely and well as follows: (see next page) Oct -17th- 1939 17 – same as yes same as yest same as yesterday</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 18-19 | <p>18 18 years as 18 as of was yesterday's years yesterday</p> |

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| | <p>I cant yesterday as of yesterday 187th cannot see to write. Grover Winn re called & had a long friendly talk with me He as gon gone sout to Seattle & Spoke en on a fasin so on a trip Portland - cant write. Oct. 19 – 1939. (Thursday) Just a shadow – cannot see – blind [Grace starts to write for her husband here] Sent a book to Mr. Allen LaPeyrouse – a drama! Letter to Doc Silvers regarding his land in the National Park. Glacier [Bay] National Park.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 19 | <p>Oct 19, 1939 (cont) I wrote the note on the preceding page! I wonder if the first line of Oct. 19 is to be the Judge's last written word! <u>Cannot see – blind!</u> Such a tragedy for one who loved to read! Who had so many books he wanted to read! Who wanted to do so much more in preserving the records of men who had lived in Alaska in early days and had helped develop it! Pilz, Bremner,</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 19 | <p>19 Franklin & many others the Judge thought were never given enough credit for their labor! Today is Sunday Oct 22, 1939. I have just returned from the hospital where I took my dear husband. He was stricken Thursday night, his right arm and right leg being affected & his speech a little thick. Friday I stayed with him and he did not seem very bad. I tho't with rest and quiet he might regain something of his former health. On</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 21 | <p>Saturday, Oct 21, 1939. Saturday he was so restless that I engaged a nurse Mrs. George Dudley to take care of him but he became so much worse that Sunday – Oct 22, 1939. this evening we decided to take him to St. Ann's hospital. I hope and pray he may recover! I love him so! I am very heartbroken tonight by have</p> |

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| | tried to keep his diary up – he was so punctilious & urged me to write in it each day when he was not able. So until Monday – May |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 23 | Monday Oct 23, 1939 May I have good news! 3 P.M. The nurse Mrs. Dudley called me at 8 A.M. saying my dear husband was very low. I went over immediately but he was unconscious & knew no one. He is struggling so hard to live – his breathing is difficult. Sent the Judge's son a telegram yesterday about his father's condition. Just received a wire and \$250- Yet Darrel would not loan him \$500 for a trip to the San Francisco Fair & to attend the Sourdough Reunion!! I am |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 23-24 | [clipping] <p style="text-align: center;">{Monday Oct 23, 1939} JUDGE WICKERSHAM SUFFERS STROKE; IS NOW IN HOSPITAL</p> Judge James Wickersham, former Delegate to Congress, was taken to St. Ann's Hospital yesterday afternoon following a stroke suffered Saturday at his home on Seventh Street. Dr. L.P. Dawes is the attending physician. heartbroken. It is four minutes after 5 A.M. Tuesday, October 24, 1939. I am alone in the office – I have just left the hospital and all I hold most dear – my darling husband is gone! I cannot yet believe it – it seems impossible. I loved him so. He was so good, so kind, so forgiving – so unselfish. I can not bear to think of life without him. |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 24 | 24 [clipping] <p style="text-align: center;">THE ALASKA DAILY PRESS, JUNEAU, ALASKA, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1939</p> Judge James Wickersham [photograph of Judge James Wickersham] Judge James Wickersham, above, former Territorial delegate to Washington, prominent attorney and author, died in Juneau early today after a brief illness. |

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| | <p style="text-align: center;">Judge James Wickersham, Prominent Alaskan, Dies in Juneau This Morning</p> <p>Judge James Wickersham, Alaska's delegate to Congress for more than 12 years, distinguished lawyer and author, died in Juneau today. Death came to the 82-year-old attorney in the early morning hours, with his wife at his bedside.</p> <p>Taken to St. Ann's Hospital last Thursday evening when he suffered a stroke, Judge Wickersham failed to rally during the ensuing hours.</p> <p>Hundreds of friends throughout the Territory today mourned the loss of one of Alaska's most distinguished residents, a man who had made Alaska his home for more than 40 years and continuously had the welfare of the country uppermost in his mind.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham's crowning achievement in service to Alaska was the passage of the Organic Act on August 24, 1912, creating the Alaska Legislature to be elected by the people.</p> <p>James Wickersham was born in Patoka, Illinois, on August 24, 1857. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Wickersham and received a common school education. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1880. In the same year he married Deborah Bell of Rochester, Illinois.</p> <p>Moving to the West a short time after his marriage, Wickersham first became probate judge in Pierce County, Washington, a position he held from 1884 until 1888. He then served as city attorney at Tacoma during the following year. Next came several uneventful years during which he carried on a private law practice in the state of Washington.</p> <p>After serving as a member of the Washington House of Representatives for one year, Wickersham gave in to a desire to see Alaska, a country in whose future possibilities he placed profound belief. In 1898 he arrived in Alaska with his wife, and, as he had said, "never went back."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Judge at Nome</p> <p>At no time during his more than four score years was Wickersham long away from public life.</p> |
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| | <p>Almost immediately after coming to Alaska to live he was appointed United States district judge at Nome. He assumed that office, his first in the Territory, at the moment when the air was filled with judicial scandals, resulting from the tactics of his unscrupulous predecessor. The scandals had been a slap in the face to Alaskan justice and Wickersham proved beyond all doubt his ability and integrity as he restored law and order to the north country.</p> <p>Resigning from his position as judge, Wickersham became delegate to Congress in the year 1909. Then, from that date, for more than a dozen years, he served Alaska as faithfully as any man possibly could. He was delegate longer than any other man, labored constantly and untiringly to make Alaska the great country he was convinced it would one day be.</p> <p>Wickersham, a Progressive Republican, was elected and reelected year after year. The political trend mattered little, as the Judge's efforts were lauded and his presence in Congress was appreciated by the Alaska electorate.</p> <p>During more recent years since Wickersham had been en</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 24</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Tues. Oct 24th, 1939.</p> <p>[clipping continued]</p> <p>gaged in private law practice, he had made his home continually in Juneau. Mrs. Wickersham passed away in 1925 and in 1928 he married Mrs. Harry Bishop, a widow.</p> <p>Besides his interest in public life, Judge Wickersham carried on numerous other pursuits, writing and scientific studies. He was assistant editor of the American Antiquarian and had written many articles on ethnology subjects. He wrote "Mounds of Sangamon County," a work describing Indian relics in the state of Illinois, where he lived as a youth. That volume was done as a Smithsonian report. More recently he had set down dozens of Alaskan tales and poems in a work glorifying the Territory in which he lived.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Passing Mourned</p> <p>Today in Juneau scores of friends of the late</p> |

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| | <p>Judge grieved at the loss of a sincere and just friend. One of Wickersham's chief interests in life during recent years centered about the weekly luncheons of the Bar Association, of which he was an extremely popular member.</p> <p>Jack Hellenthal, attorney who was a friend of the Judge's for forty years, said this morning: "I am deeply grieved at the Judge's passing. He was a great man, respected and loved by all Alaskans. His greatest interest in public life was always for Alaska's benefit.</p> <p>"The Judge took a delight in meeting every Saturday with the bar association. He was an entertaining and interesting personality on such occasions and I don't think he'd missed a meeting in several years until last Saturday."</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Famed Barrister Dies in Juneau This Morning Former Territorial Dele- gate to Washington Was Eighty-Two Service in Juneau</p> <p>Thursday night the remains will be shipped to the States for burial aboard the North Sea. A service, however, will be held in Juneau Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.</p> <p>Dean Charles E. Rice will read the eulogy at the rites, to be held at the Chapel of the Charles W. Carter Mortuary.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 24</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE, TUESDAY, OCT. 24, 1939 JUDGE JAMES WICKERSHAM DEAD AT 82 Former Delegate Passes Away at Hospital Early Today Judge James Wickersham, 82, Delegate to Congress for 14 years and one of the grand old</p> |

men of Alaska's history, died early this morning at St. Ann's Hospital.

He had suffered a stroke last Saturday. The resulting illness claimed his life at 4:30 o'clock this morning.

As Delegate from 1909 to 1921 and from 1931 to 1933, Judge Wickersham's principal achievement was the Alaska Act, known as the Wickersham Act, giving a measure of home rule to the Territory and setting up the system of Government which still prevails.

39 years in Alaska

Judge Wickersham came to Alaska in 1900. He lived a year at Eagle, a year at Nome, two years at Valdez and 16 at Fairbanks. Since 1921 he had been a Juneau resident, maintaining an office in the Valentine Building and appearing bright and early almost every morning, even though in retirement.

Judge Wickersham on June 6, 1900, at the age of 43 was appointed Judge of the District Court in the Third Alaska Precinct, as it was then known. At an age when most men were beginning to think about settling down for their declining years, Jim Wickersham was just beginning a public career which was to carry him far and high. He was a Judge until December 31, 1907.

Diary 47, 1939
October 24

24

[clipping continued]

James Wickersham was born at Patoca, Marion County, Illinois, on August 24, 1857. His father was Alexander Wickersham, a Kentuckian, and his mother Deborah Bell of Rochester, Illinois [his mother was Mary Jane McHaney, his wife is Deborah Bell]

Career Outside

He was admitted to the bar in 1880, became a Probate Judge in Pierce County, Washington, in 1884 and City Attorney of Tacoma and a member of the Washington Legislature in 1898.

Judge Wickersham belonged to the Sons of the American Revolution, the American Anthropological Association, the Asiatic Society of Japan, the Masonic Lodge, the Elks, Eagles,

Moose and the Pioneers of Alaska.

His "Bibliography of Alaskan Literature, 1724-1934" [1924] won him lasting fame as an author and scholar. His personal library, which has been kept intact in Juneau, is admitted to be the finest Alaska library anywhere.

Besides the widow, Judge Wickersham is survived by a son, Lieut. Commander Darrell P. Wickersham of San Francisco.

Pioneer, lawyer, jurist, author, congressman and crusader, Wickersham has been in the center of more stormy controversies than any other figure who has grown up with Alaska.

Sent to Alaska

In the state of Washington they said jokingly that Senator Addison G. Foster, a political crony, sent Wickersham to Alaska to get him out of Washington politics, and if he did he tossed a whole hornet's nest into the midst of the young northern Territory. He was fated in the North to share in the clean-up of Nome which followed the upsetting of a famous mining conspiracy which served the further purpose of providing the material for Rex Beach's novel, "The Spoilers." He was in the Fairbanks district during the early fight of the Guggenheim interests for an Alaska foothold. Some of the history of that early fight also was translated into novel form in Beach's "Iron Trail."

PIONEER ON LAST
TRAIL

[photograph of Judge Wickersham]
JUDGE JAMES WICKERSHAM
who passed away this morning.
Party By Himself.

Wickersham rode into Congress and stayed there on his anti-Guggenheim issue. Originally a Republican, he became a "Progressive," but more than anything else he was a whole party by himself in Alaska for a decade or more. George Grigsby, the Democratic nominee, once was District Attorney at Nome and on the face of 1918 returns was elected as Delegate, but Wickersham contested and won the seat.

While he spent long months in Washington

awaiting the outcome of his contest, Wickersham worked on his Alaska history, which he subsequently retired to Juneau to finish.

Among the important bills he introduced and succeeded in having passed in Congress were those incorporating the City of Fairbanks; establishing the Territorial Legislature; authorizing the location and construction of a Federal Government Railroad from Seward to Fairbanks; providing for the granting by the Federal Government of four sections of land as a site for the Agricultural College and School of Mines, now the University of Alaska, and for the setting aside of Section 33 in each township in the Tanana Valley for the support of the educational institution; and authorizing the erection of the Territorial and Federal Building at Juneau.

Editor, Author

Judge Wickersham edited eight volumes of the Alaska Law Reports, and is the author of "Old Yukon" a comprehensive historical work of 514 pages, published last year.

No man was more widely known in Alaska than Judge Wickersham. In the course of his political and judicial activities he visited every part of the Territory.

Memorial services will be held for Judge Wickersham at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon at the Charles W. Carter Chapel here. The body will be taken south by Mr. Wickersham on the vessel North Sea on Thursday night for cremation at Tacoma.

Tributes

Commenting on the death of Judge Wickersham, Gov. John W. Troy said today: "A very able man, a good lawyer and an earnest Alaskan, Judge Wickersham also one of the best informed people in the Territory on the history of Alaska. I join the community in offering my sincerest sympathy to Mrs. Wickersham and his son."

Former Governor George A. Parks said: "I've known Judge Wickersham for 25 years. He has done a lot of work for the Territory and undoubtedly contributed much to its progress. He

had a vast knowledge of Alaska and its history. The records which he is leaving are going to be a good deal of interest for generations to come." Collector of Customs James J. Connors said: "I wish to express my heart-felt sympathy to Mrs. Wickersham. The Judge was one of the grand old pioneers of Alaska. He always had the interests of the Territory at heart and made one of the finest judges we ever had. I esteem him as one of the real builders of Alaska."

Diary 47, 1939
October 25-26

25

[clipping]

MEMORIAL RITES
TOMORROW FOR
ALASKA JUDGE
Wickersham Services at
Elks' Auditorium – Lie
in State Tonight

Memorial services for Judge James Wickersham, pioneer Alaskan and former Delegate to Congress, who passed away early yesterday morning at St. Ann's Hospital, will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Elks Auditorium.

The rites will be conducted by Dean C.E. Rice and Jack Hellenthal will deliver the eulogy. Music for the service will be by the Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir.

The remains will be taken south tomorrow evening by Mrs. Wickersham on the steamer North Sea for cremation at Tacoma. An escort from the Alaska Bar Association, Masonic Lodge and the Elks will accompany the remains to the ship.

The casket will not be opened at the service tomorrow and friends who desire may call this evening after 7 o'clock at the Charles W. Carter Mortuary where the remains will lie in state.

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THE ALASKA DAILY PRESS
JUNEAU, ALASKA,
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1939
Wickersham Rites
At Elks Hall
Services for Judge James Wickersham,

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| | <p>prominent Juneau resident who died yesterday, will be held in Juneau at the Elks Hall tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.</p> <p>Dean Charles E. Rice will conduct the service, and Jack Hellenthal will deliver the eulogy. Music will be by the Trinity Cathedral Choir.</p> <p>Tomorrow night the remains will be shipped south aboard the S.S. North Sea for burial in the states.</p> <p>The casket will not be opened at the service, but friends wishing may call at the Charles W. Carter Mortuary this evening after 7 o'clock.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 26</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Alaska Loses a colorful Figure</p> <p>Passing of Judge James Wickersham Tuesday morning took from Alaska a most colorful figure. Perhaps to a greater extent than that of any other man, the career of Judge Wickersham was intimately identified with the development of this Territory.</p> <p>When Wickersham came North as District Judge of the Third Division, that district included much more area than now – including Nome – and it was as wild a sector as anyone could wish for. Those were stormy days, but the Judge brought order out of confusion and emerged within a few years as Alaska's dominant figure. So well did he build that in the ensuing two decades whatever "Wickersham" said was tantamount to law, and this applied whether he was in official position or temporarily on the sidelines "pulling the strings."</p> <p>This personal power was not, however, abused. As a result of it Alaska received many of its lasting blessings, beginning with the Organic Act and first stages of home rule. Further enumeration at this time would be a task, for the Judge's public career was a long one.</p> <p>Only after "Wickersham" was long past the normal age of retirement was he content to leave public life, and even then he was definitely in touch with the current. During his Alaska residence he accumulated what undoubtedly is the finest historical library on the Territory, and he added to it with volumes of his own.</p> |

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| | <p>Of recent years "Wickersham" had been satisfied to maintain his law office in Juneau. Still physically fit, mentally alert, it was an inspiration for younger men to see him of a morning, with springy step and cane swinging jauntily, passing down Seward street to open his office punctually.</p> <p>Not that the Judge chose to undertake a great deal of legal work during that time. Occasionally he took a case, but for the most part he preferred that his time be his own. During the early part of his career he undoubtedly had enemies – of the political variety – and, being the vigorous man he was, he fought them toe-to-toe, but during the mellowing later years there was a noticeable healing of old sores. Men who had once opposed him without asking quarter now came to reminisce with him and enjoy the keenness of his wit, which was present to the last.</p> <p>He was a kindly and indulgent counselor and his years had made his advice invaluable to some of youthful indecision. There are those of us who found that, although there often was opportunity, his advice never favored his own desires in a situation but invariably furthered the interests of the asker.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham lived a full life; he accomplished important things for those with whom he lived; he must have gone away content.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 26</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MEMORIAL RITES TOMORROW FOR ALASKA JUDGE Wickersham Services at Elks' Auditorium – Lie in State Tonight</p> <p>Memorial services for Judge James Wickersham, pioneer Alaskan and former Delegate to Congress, who passed away early yesterday morning at St. Ann's Hospital, will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Elks Auditorium.</p> <p>The rites will be conducted by Dean C.E. Rice and Jack Hellenthal will deliver the eulogy. Music for the service will be by the Holy Trinity Cathedral</p> |

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| | <p>Choir. The remains will be taken south tomorrow evening by Mrs. Wickersham on the steamer North Sea for cremation at Tacoma. An escort from the Alaska Bar Association, Masonic Lodge and the Elks will accompany the remains to the ship. The casket will not be opened at the service tomorrow and friends who desire may call this evening after 7 o'clock at the Charles W. Carter Mortuary where the remains will lie in state.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 26</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25, 1939. ALASKA'S "WICKERSHAM" BURNS OUT; BUT HIS LIGHT SHINES ON</p> <p>Writing James Wickersham's obituary is like putting lock and seal on an era in history. There will never be another man like Judge Wickersham because there will never be another setting quite like Alaska, 1900-1939, to bring out the particular qualities for which the world will remember him.</p> <p>God gave James Wickersham character and talents which fit like the proverbial paper on the wall the time and place in which he found himself when he came north from Tacoma at the turn of the century. Resourceful, determined, a forceful speaker, he made his way in Alaska to a fame which will never be forgotten.</p> <p>As a fearless judge at Valdez and Fairbanks in the early years of the century, as Delegate to Congress for 14 years, longer than any other man is ever likely to serve, as author and enactor of the Alaska Organic Act, as the scholar who compiled the "Bibliography of Alaskan Literature" and as a retired elder citizen of Juneau in his last years, James Wickersham is owed much honor by the Territory in whose service he labored.</p> <p>Two weeks ago last night Judge Wickersham, in his 83rd year, was a speaker at the testimonial dinner given by the people of Juneau for retiring Gov. John W. Troy. Those who heard him then know he kept to the end the faculties which made him a big man in Alaska. The body did not outlive the man; both left us at once yesterday, and left us</p> |

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| | <p>poorer. Alaska will not forget James Wickersham. His place in our history is secure.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 26</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Gruening Pays Tribute, Dead Jurist Declares Alaska Loses Great Pioneer in Pass- ing of Wickersham</p> <p>WASHINGTON, Oct.26.- Dr. Ernest Gruening, Director of Division of Territories and Island Possessions and probably future Governor of Alaska, said:</p> <p>"In the death of Judge James Wickersham, Alaska lost a great pioneer, a preeminent citizen whose public and private services to the community in many fields, in the halls of Congress, on the bench, at the bar and domain of letters is enduring and has helped make the Alaska of today. His work and name will be imperishable and will be gratefully recorded in the Territory's history."</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 26</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE, THURSDAY, OCT. 26, 1939 WICKERSHAM IS PAID TRIBUTE; SERVICES TODAY</p> <p>Eulogy Credits Late Judge James Wickersham as Great in Efforts as Pioneer Alaskan</p> <p>Over a hundred saddened Alaskans gathered in the auditorium of the Elks this afternoon to pay tribute to the late Judge James Wickersham, pioneer Alaskan and former Delegate to Congress, on of the foremost figures in the building of the Territory, who passed away early Tuesday morning in St. Ann's Hospital.</p> <p>At Mrs. Wickersham's request floral offerings were limited to a lovely double casket spray from the Juneau Bar Association, of which the late</p> |

Judge Wickersham was long a member. Services, read by Dean C.E. Rice, were followed by the eulogy delivered by Jack Hellenthal, long time friend of Judge Wickersham, and member of the Bar Association.

Hellenthal paid tribute to the late pioneer as a "giant" among men, "great" in his achievements, in his spirit, in his services for the Territory.

Judge Wickersham, Hellenthal said, lived and died a pioneer, leaving his Illinois boyhood town for the Northwest, then the last frontier, following the newest frontiers to Alaska, bringing law to wilderness, building courthouses in his trail, fighting for Alaska in Congress, fathering the Organic Act and the right to representation of Alaska in Congress, battling courageously for everything he deemed right for Alaska and for Alaskans, a great man, a great Alaskan, whose greatness will never be forgotten so long as Alaska remains Alaska.

Pallbearers at the service were George A. Parks, Harry G. Watson, Dr. A.W. Stewart, John Newmarker, Joe Waite, Trevor Davis, J.F. Mullen and Herb Redman.

The Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir rendered music during the services.

Tonight an escort of the pallbearers and members of the Bar Association will accompany the remains to the steamer North Sea on which Mrs. Wickersham is sailing, taking her late husband's remains to Tacoma for cremation.

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WICKERSHAM
RITES WILL BE
HELD IN SEATTLE

SEATTLE, Oct. 30.-AP-Funeral services will be held at the Bonney Watson chapel here Thursday at 3 p.m. for Judge James Wickersham, who died at Juneau last week. Mrs. Wickersham will bring the body here tomorrow. Interment will be at Tacoma.

Here for the funeral are two brothers, Frank of Cambria, Calif., and Harry Wickersham, Buckley, Wash., and a son, Darrell, San Francisco.

Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe of the Episcopal church, a longtime friend, will fly here from California to conduct the services.

Diary 47, 1939
October 26

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[clipping]

SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER,
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25,
Judge Wickersham,
Noted Alaskan, Dies
Long Illness Takes
Pioneer Lawyer
And Author

JUNEAU, Alaska, Oct. 24.-(A.P.) – James Wickersham, eighty two, former congressional delegate and pioneer lawyer, federal judge, explorer, author and Bibliophile, died here today after a long illness climaxing in a stroke October 21.

The funeral will probably be Thursday, with the remains to be sent to Tacoma for cremation. The ashes will be placed in the family vault there.

One of the territory's most noted citizens, he came north from Tacoma in 1900 under President McKinley's appointment as judge of the Third Judicial District of Alaska. He covered a circuit of 300,000 square miles, much of it by dog sled; built courthouses and jails, organized towns, discovered gold, made the first attempts to scale Mount McKinley, edited a newspaper and tried many cases including the McKenzie-Noyes conspiracy case at Nome-the case which provided material for Rex Beach's novel, "The Spoilers."

SERVED IN CONGRESS

He was judge of the Fairbanks District during the early fight against the Guggenheim interests, a fight Beach made famous in "The Iron Trail." Friends wanted to name the town Wickersham, but Judge Wickersham insisted it be named Fairbanks for McKinley's vice president. Fairbanks, however, has a Wickersham Street in his honor.

Judge Wickersham served as federal judge until 1907, once walking 520 miles to open a court session. Campaigning on an anti-Guggenheim platform, he was elected to represent Alaska in the

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| | <p>United States congress from 1909 to 1921 and again in the Seventy-second Congress, 1931-33. He was a delegate to the Republican national convention at Kansas City in 1928.</p> <p>He wed Daborah S. Bell of Rochester, Ill., in 1880, the year he was admitted to the bar. She died in 1926. Their son, Lieutenant Commander Darrell P. Wickersham is a San Francisco resident. A niece, Ruth Coffin, lives in Seattle.</p> <p>TACOMA CITY ATTORNEY</p> <p>In 1928, Judge Wickersham wed Mrs. Grace Bishop, widow of a United States marshal at Juneau and sister of the late Henry Vrooman, an American electrical engineer of Barcelona, Spain.</p> <p>Wickersham served as probate judge in Pierce County, Wash., from 1884-1888 and as city attorney for Tacoma in 1893 and 1894. He was a member of the Washington territorial house of representatives in 1898.</p> <p>His interests were widespread. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, American Anthropological Association, Asiatic Society of Japan, besides pioneer and fraternal organizations.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 26</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">{New York Tribune Oct 24, 1939.} Wickersham, Early Jurist in Alaska, Is Dead Explorer, 82, Served Long as Delegate to Congress; Set Up a 'Floating' Court JUNEAU, Alaska, Oct. 24 (AP). – James Wickersham, former Congressional delegate from Alaska, who was an early explorer and jurist here, died today. He was eighty-two years old. He came from Tacoma, Wash., in 1900 under appointment from President McKinley as judge of the Third Judicial District of Alaska.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Held "Floating" Court Off Coast</p> <p>One of Rex Beach's first novels, "The Spoilers," was written about incidents in Alaska which</p> |

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| | <p>residents recognized as associated with the early court trials conducted by Mr. Wickersham.</p> <p>Mr. Wickersham served as a delegate from Congress from Alaska from 1909 to 1921 and again from 1931 to 1933. Born in Patoka, Ill., of early pioneer ancestry, he studied law at Springfield for a brief time and then moved to Tacoma in 1883. There he served a year as city attorney, winning a judgment for the city against the Tacoma Light and Water Company which was settled for \$100,000 and the return of the plant to the city.</p> <p>As a Republican he served a term in the Washington Legislature. In 1900 President McKinley named him judge of division three of the Territory of Alaska, and Mr. Wickersham established the first court at Eagle City.</p> <p>The court district covered 300,000 square miles and the judge used a dog sled to travel from town to town. He organized all the district's minor courts and in 1903 held a "floating" court along the coast in the trial for title to the famous Kennecott copper mine.</p> <p>In 1903 Mr. Wickersham, with four companions; attempted to climb Mt. McKinley. The group reached a height of 10,000 feet. On this expedition he discovered and located the first gold mining claims in the Kantishna mining district.</p> <p>In his first twelve years of membership in the House at Washington Mr. Wickersham had a stormy career. He engaged in a fist fight with the late Representative Frank W. Mondell, of Wyoming, when the latter was accused of passing the word "liar" to Wickersham. The fight on the House floor was halted by fellow members.</p> <p>He sponsored much legislation for Alaska, including the bills creating the Alaskan Legislature in 1912, the Federal railroad between Seward and Fairbanks, the Alaskan public school system and the Alaska prohibition act of 1917. Mr. Wickersham returned to Congress in the 1930 election, but after one term was retired. He went back to Juneau in 1933 to practice law.</p> <p>Mr. Wickersham compiled the "Alaska Territory</p> |
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| | <p>Law Reports” of seven volumes and “A Bibliography of Alaskan Literature, 1724-1924.” The latter is a catalogue of more than 10,000 items in his personal library of Alaska.</p> <p>He was a member of the American Anthropological Association, the Linguistic Society of America, Sons of the American Revolution, and the Asiatic Society of Japan. He was a frequent contributor to magazines, with articles on Alaskan affairs.</p> <p>Mr. Wickersham married Deborah Susan Bell, of Rochester, Ill., in 1880. She died in 1926. A son, Darrell Palmer Wickersham, survives. Surviving also is Mr. Wickersham’s second wife, the former Mrs. Grace Vrooman Bishop, formerly of Seattle, whom he married in 1928.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 26 | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">{Oct. 24, 1939.}</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE SEATTLE DAILY TIMES Judge Wickersham, Famous In Alaskan History, Dies</p> <p>JUNEAU, Alaska, Tuesday, Oct. 24.-(AP)-James Wickersham, 82 years old, former congressional delegate and pioneer lawyer, federal judge, explorer, author and bibliophile, died here today after a long illness. He suffered a stroke Saturday.</p> <p>The funeral probably will be Thursday with the remains to be sent to Tacoma for cremation. The ashes will be placed in the family vault there.</p> <p>One of the territory’s most noted citizens, he came north from Tacoma in 1900 under President McKinley’s appointment as judge of the Third Judicial District of Alaska. He covered a circuit of 300,000 square miles, much of it by dog sled; built courthouses and jails, organized towns, discovered gold, made the first attempt to scale Mount McKinley, edited a newspaper and tried many cases, including the McKenzie-Noyes conspiracy cases at Nome-the case which provided material for Rex Beach’s novel, “The Spoilers.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Elected as Delegate</p> <p>Judge Wickersham was in the Fairbanks district during the early fight against Guggenheim</p> |

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| | <p>interests, a fight Beach made famous in “The Iron Trail.” Friends wanted to name the town Wickersham, but Wickersham insisted it be named Fairbanks for McKinley’s vice president. Fairbanks, however has a Street in his honor.</p> <p>Wickersham served as federal judge until 1907, once walking 520 miles to open a court session. Campaigning on an anti-Guggenheim platform, he was elected to represent Alaska in the United States Congress from 1909 to 1921 and again in the Seveaty-Second Congress, 1931-1933.</p> <p>The judge was a delegate to the Republican National Convention at Kansas City in 1928.</p> <p>Wickersham retired to write a book about Alaska. Also it was, necessarily, part autobiography, covering the period 1900 to 1938 under the title “Old Yukon.” Also he published “Bibliography of Alaskan Literature, 1724-1924,” based on his studies in his own library of 10,000 books concerning Alaska. He edited the seven-volume “Alaska Territory Law Reports,” too.</p> <p>Included in his book collection, exhibited in Seattle this fall, were such rarities as The Gospel According to St. Mathew, printed in the old Oregon Missions in 1845; a copy of Boulet’s Youths’ Companion, printed at Tualip in 1882, and almanacs for Oregon, Washington and Idaho for 1859 to 1873.</p> <p>Born at Patoka, Ill. August 25, 1857, he received only a common schooling and it was not until four years ago that he received a college degree, an honorary LL.D., from the Territorial University at Fairbanks.</p> <p>He wed Deborah S. Bell of Rochester, Ill., in 1880, the year he was admitted to the bar. She died in 1926. Their son, Lieut. Comdr. Darrell P. Wickersham, U.S.N., is a San Francisco resident. A niece, Ruth Coffin, lives in Seattle.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Of Many Interests</p> <p>In 1928, Judge Wickersham wed Mrs. Grace Bishop, widow of a United Sates marshal at Juneau and sister of the late Henry Vrooman, an American electrical engineer of Barcelona Spain.</p> <p>Wickersham served as probate judge in Pierce</p> |
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| | <p>County from 1884 to 1888 and as city attorney for Tacoma in 1893 and 1894. He was a member of the Washington Territorial House of Representatives in 1898.</p> <p>His interests were widespread. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, American Anthropological Association, Asiatic Society of Japan, besides pioneer and fraternal organizations.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 26 | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1939 [Photograph of Judge Wickersham]</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 26 | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p>ALASKA'S FIRST CITIZEN PASSES AWAY AT JUNEAU</p> <p>Judge James Wickersham, Judge, Lawmaker and Representative of the Territory in Congress for Many Years, Suffers Fatal Stroke in Territory's Capital; Remains to Be Brought to Former Home, Tacoma, for Interment</p> <p>JUNEAU.-James Wickersham 82, former congressional delegate and pioneer lawyer, federal judge, explorer, author and Bibliophile, died here Tuesday, October 24, after a long illness climaxing in a stroke October 21.</p> <p>The funeral was set for Thursday of this week, with the remains to be sent to Tacoma for cremation. The ashes will be placed in the family vault there.</p> <p>A friend among friends, a scholar of the highest attainments, a man of superb fighting qualities and spirit, a gentleman in the finest sense and first, last, and always a militantly loyal Alaskan, the Territory lost its grandest old man in the passing of Judge James Wickersham.</p> <p>He came north from Tacoma in 1900, having been appointed to the judgeship of the Third Judicial Division by President McKinley. With a jurisdiction comprising more than 300,000 square miles, he traveled by canoe, dog team and on</p> |

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| | <p>snowshoes to introduce the white man's brand of justice to the north.</p> <p>During his term in office, he built courthouses, jails, aided in organizing towns, was one of the first to attempt to scale Mount McKinley. He tried cases all over the Territory, including the infamous McKenzie-Noyes conspiracy case on the Seward Peninsula.</p> <p>Walking over the trail from Eagle to what is now Fairbanks, he was one of the first residents of the town.</p> <p>He was judge of the Fairbanks District during the early fight against the Guggenheim interests, a fight Beach made famous in "The Iron Trail." Friends wanted to name the town Wickersham, but Judge Wickersham insisted it be named Fairbanks for McKinley's Vice-President. Fairbanks, however, has a Wickersham Street in his honor.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham served as federal judge until 1907, once walking 520 miles to open a court session. Campaigning on an anti-Guggenheim platform, he was elected to represent Alaska in the United States Congress from 1909 to 1921 and again in the 72nd Congress, 1931-1933.</p> <p>He wed Daborah S. Bell of Rochester, Ill., in 1880, the year he was admitted to the bar. She died in 1926. Their son, Lieutenant Commander Darrell P. Wickersham, is a San Francisco resident. A niece, Ruth Coffin, lives in Seattle.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tacoma City Attorney</p> <p>In 1928, Judge Wickersham wed Mrs. Grace Bishop, widow of a United States marshal at Juneau and sister of the late Henry Vrooman, an American electrical engineer of Barcelona, Spain.</p> <p>Wickersham served as probate judge in Pierce County, Wash., from 1884 to 1888 and as city attorney for Tacoma in 1893 and 1894. He was a member of the Washington house of representatives in 1898.</p> <p>His interests were widespread. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, American Anthropological Association, Asiatic Society of Japan, besides pioneer and fraternal organization.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 | 27 |

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| October 27 | <p>[clipping]</p> <p>THE TACOMA NEWS TRIBUNE, TACOMA, WASH. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1939 Judge Wickersham</p> <p>Tacoma has had a close relationship with Alaska since the Gold Rush days, a strong bond being the fact that one of the territory's most famous citizens, James Wickersham, was a former resident of this city. He died this week in Juneau at the age of 82.</p> <p>Appointed as a federal judge by President McKinley, Wickersham had devoted almost twoscore years to serving, as jurist, representative in Congress, editor and author, the territory he loved.</p> <p>Wickersham was a circuit judge in the pioneer sense. Instead of traveling by plane or air-cooled train from one comfortable courtroom to another, Judge Wickersham traveled his 300,000-square-mile circuit by boat, dogsled and often on foot. He did not find the law functioning in distant gold camps. He established law, built courthouses and jails!</p> <p>Immensely interested in all that went on about him, Judge Wickersham was an ardent explorer and made the first attempt to scale Mt. McKinley.</p> <p>In his death, Alaska has lost a link with its past-a link, however, which has been preserved in "Old Yukon-Tales, Trails and Trials" in which, perhaps, Judge Wickersham has given us one of the most authentic pictures of pioneer days in the territory.</p> <p>Incidentally, up to the time of his death, Judge Wickersham was the sole survivor of the first board of trustees of the Washington State Historical society.</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p>WICKERSHAM'S ASHES WILL BE BROUGHT HERE</p> <p>Following services for Judge James Wickersham, who died last week in Juneau, to be held Thursday at 3 p.m. at the Bonney-Watson chapel in Seattle, the body will be cremated. The</p> |
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| | <p>ashes will be brought to the Tacoma cemetery for burial. There will be no services at the cemetery.</p> <p>Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe of the Episcopal church in California will fly to Seattle to conduct the rights. Mrs. Wickersham is bringing the body to Seattle. A son, Darrell, of San Francisco, and two brothers, Frank of Cambria, Calif., and Harry of Buckley, are in Seattle for the services.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 27 | <p>27</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p>FAIRBANKS DAILY NEWS MINER WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1939 Passing of Great Alaskan</p> <p>Alaska witnessed the passing yesterday of a great adopted son and citizen, Judge James Wickersham. At the age of 82 years, he went to his reward with a credit of 59 years of public service, 39 of which was devoted solely to the interests of Alaska.</p> <p>No figure of contemporaneous times has been so identified with the progress and labors of achievement on behalf of the territory. Seven years as a jurist on the highest bench of the land and 21[12] years as delegate to congress and in the interim as one devoted to the weal and welfare of the country in many a responsible capacity, he served Alaska with all his tireless energy, genius and superior ability.</p> <p>In twenty years of similar service, following his admittance to the bar in Washington, he there laid the foundation of experience which became a heritage of Alaska.</p> <p>His was a life of prodigious accomplishment. As judge, legislator and author he toiled ceaselessly – often entering the arena as a fearless fighter for what he deemed right and in the public interest, and seldom failing to emerge victorious.</p> <p>Many of the progressive steps in the history of Alaska of his day, are attributable directly to his efforts.</p> <p>Of pioneer stock that helped by progressive steps to conquer the Middle West, the Far West and the Far North, he ever held to the tradition of the pioneer spirit that is the embodiment of the</p> |

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| | <p>individual and collective initiative and progress, on which is laid the foundation of every new state.</p> <p>His devotion to this spirit is reflected in his great task of compiling the Law Reports of Alaska in eight volumes, the assembling and publication of a huge Bibliography of Alaskan literature, covering the period from 1724-1924, with later revisions and additions; the writing of other volumes of great historical value; collecting of copies of all available early books and newspapers, and records-which will be passed on to posterity – a priceless heritage.</p> <p>Interior Alaska always will be grateful and cherish his memory as the author of the acts of congress resulting in the construction of the Alaska Railroad and establishment of the University of Alaska – his services as judge and dispenser of justice in the early days of her great gold stampedes – and his part in helping found the cities of Fairbanks, Nome and other towns and communities which today exist and flourish largely because of the part he played in pioneering the way.</p> <p>Few indeed have been blessed with such genius and ability – and few rise to such eminence. Alaska long will honor and cherish the name of James Wickersham, great Alaskan, by virtue of whose life present and future generations are blessed with the privilege of carrying on in the great task of building of a greater Alaska.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 27 | <p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fairbanks Daily News – Miner JUDGE JAMES WICKERSHAM DIES</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 27 | <p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>[clipping continued]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Outstanding Alaska Citizen Passes At Juneau After Stroke Lawyer, Judge, Delegate to Congress and Brilliant Author, Suffered Stroke Saturday, Taken to Hospital Sunday and Died Today; Services Will Be Held Thursday at Juneau</p> |

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| | <p>JUNEAU, Oct. 24. – Judge James Wickersham, 82, former Delegate to Congress, died early this morning in St. Ann's hospital where he was taken Sunday following a stroke on Saturday.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham is survived by his widow and son, Darrell P. Wickersham, Lieutenant Commander in the Navy and living at San Francisco.</p> <p>Funeral services will probably be held here Thursday and the remains shipped Friday to Tacoma for cremation and the ashes placed in the family vault.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Notable Career</p> <p>Judge Wickersham celebrated his 82nd birthday on August 24 of this year, when he was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the Juneau bar, and received many telegrams of congratulations from friends throughout Alaska and the States.</p> <p>Born at Patoka, Illinois, he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Wickersham, pioneers of the State of Washington – still a territory, when they migrated west and settled in the vicinity of Olympia. Taking up the study of law and aligning himself with the Republican party, young Wickersham's rise to prominence was rapid.</p> <p>He was admitted to the bar in Washington in 1880, eight years before it became a state; was probate judge of Pierce County Washington, whose seat is Tacoma, from 1884 to 1888; city attorney of Tacoma in 1893-94, under Mayor Ed. S. Orr, later prominent pioneer of Fairbanks and Dawson; and member of the house of representatives of the State of Washington in 1898.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 27 | <p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>[clipping continued]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Judge James Wickersham Is Called Comes to Alaska</p> <p>In June, 1900, when congress passed the act extending civil government to Alaska, and authorizing two additional district judges for the northern part of the territory, Wickersham was appointed judge for the division covering the Yukon</p> |

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| | <p>basin, with headquarters at Eagle.</p> <p>Later he came to Fairbanks and established the first court here, and transmitted to Washington the recommendation which resulted in the naming of the town "Fairbanks." Later he served as judge at Nome in the hectic days of the gold rush; and in other parts of the Territory. His total period of service as judge in Alaska extended from 1900 to 1907.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Long in Congress</p> <p>He was elected and served as delegate to congress from Alaska in the 61st and the 66th congress (1909 to 1921); and in the 72nd congress, 1931-33.</p> <p>He was delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1928, at Kansas City; member of the Sons of the American Revolution; the American Anthropological Association; the Asiatic Society of Japan, the Pioneers of Alaska, the Loyal Order of Moose, and the Masonic Order.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Noted Author</p> <p>As an author Judge Wickersham was outstanding, compiling and publishing the Law Reports of the Territory of Alaska in eight volumes, covering the period from 1867 to 1935; a Bibliography of Alaskan Literature, covering the period from 1724-1924, with later revisions and additions; and the review of his Alaskan experiences in a volume entitled "Old Yukon" issued in 1938.</p> <p>Wickersham secured the passage of the organic act, or constitution of Alaska; and was instrumental in the passage of the acts whereby the Alaska Railroad and the University of Alaska became realities.</p> <p>In 1935 the University of Alaska conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham was married twice; first to Deborah S. Bell of Rochester, Illinois, who died October 27, 1880 [1926]; and in 1928 to Mrs. Grace Bishop of Juneau, who survives him and has been his constant helpmate and companion through the years and to the end.</p> <p>For many years he has made his home in</p> |
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| | Juneau, always a mecca for the many pioneers and Alaskans who formed his legion of friends. |
| Diary 47, 1939 October 27 | <p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAST HONORS ARE PAID TO JUDGE JAMES WICKERSHAM {Alaska Weekly Friday Nov. 3, 1939}</p> <p>Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe Pays Last Tribute to Memory of Late Alaskan Jurist and Legislator. Great Throng of Alaskans Present</p> <p>In a chapel banked with beautiful flowers, hundreds of Alaskan sourdoughs gathered yesterday to pay their last respects to the late Judge James Wickersham.</p> <p>Although the services were set for three p.m., long before that time, the crowd began to gather and when Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe in the surplice and robes of a bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Alaska, marched down the aisle, prayer book in hand, there was not a vacant chair in the chapel, with the overflow crowding the ante room.</p> <p>It was a hard service for Bishop Rowe to read. During the past four decades, his life has been so linked with the life of Judge Wickersham, that at times tears swelled his throat and it was difficult for him to carry on, but with the courage that has topped a thousand hills, and won out over the thousands of miles of trail in the North, he went through.</p> <p>He told of many meetings with Judge Wickersham on the trails of the Far North and many an old-timer in the throng could see the picture, Judge Wickersham out in front of his dog team, parka open at the throat, fur cap in hand, and his graying hair touched with frost.</p> <p>One spreading the Gospel of God throughout the North, the other spreading law and justice of the country, two men, friends through all the years, and still close together even though one had gone on.</p> <p>No wonder Bishop Rowe's voice clogged with tears, and as he finished his eulogy, there were few dry eyes in the chapel.</p> <p>The remains will be taken to Tacoma for cremation, after which the ashes will be placed in</p> |

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| | <p>the Wickersham family vault in Tacoma.</p> <p>[clipping] {sent me from Seattle Oct. 31, 1939} POST-INTELLIGENCER WICKERSHAM FUNERAL HERE</p> <p>With friends of northern camps and trails attending funeral services for James Wickersham, Alaska's grand old man, will be held at the Bonney-Watson chapel next Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock.</p> <p>He died a week ago at his home in Juneau and the body is to arrive in Seattle on the liner North Sea, accompanied by his widow, Grace, today.</p> <p>Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe, his friend of many years, is flying from California to conduct the funeral services.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham, eighty-two, was Alaska's former delegate to congress and he had also served as a federal judge in Alaska, where he was a pioneer of the bar.</p> <p>In recent years he devoted his time to writing the history of the territory and his autobiography.</p> <p>In addition to his widow, other members of the family to attend the services will be his son, Darrell, of San Francisco, and two brothers, Harry of Buckley and Frank of Cambria, Calif.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 27</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Judge Wickersham Passes After Long Service in Alaska</p> <p>Early in the morning of October 24, a grand old man of Alaska, probably the most colorful and well known figure in the North, and a Brother Elk, passed away at St. Ann's Hospital – The Honorable Judge James Wickersham.</p> <p>Few who saw the North did not know "Wickersham" as he was known to his friends. Few who came to the North were not known by Wickersham.</p> <p>Death came at the age of 82 years after nearly half of that span of life in Alaska, fighting for</p> |

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| | <p>Alaska, serving Alaska, praising its wonders, writing its glories and living the Alaska life he so dearly loved.</p> <p>Surviving him were his widow and a son, Lieut. Comdr. Darrell P. Wickersham, of San Francisco.</p> <p>As Delegate from 1909 to 1921 and from 1931-1933, Judge Wickersham's principal achievement was the Alaska Act, known as the Wickersham Act, giving a measure of home rule to the Territory and setting up the system of government which still prevails.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham came to Alaska in 1900. He lived a year at Eagle, a year at Nome, two years at Valdez and 16 at Fairbanks. Since 1921 he had been a Juneau resident, maintaining an office in the Valentine Building and appearing bright and early almost every morning, even though in retirement.</p> <p>His "Bibliography of Alaskan Literature, 1724-1934[1924]" won him lasting fame as an author and scholar. His personal library, which has been kept intact in Alaska is admitted to be the finest Alaska library anywhere.</p> <p>Pioneer, lawyer, jurist, author, congressman and crusader, Wickersham has been in the center of more stormy controversies than any other figure who has grown up with Alaska.</p> <p>In the State of Washington they said jokingly that Senator Addison G. Foster, a political crony, sent Wickersham to Alaska to get him out of Washington politics, and if he did he tossed a whole hornet's nest into the midst of the young northern Territory. He was fated in the North to share in the cleanup of Nome which followed the upsetting of a famous mining conspiracy which served the further purpose of providing the material for Rex Beach's novel, "The Spoilers." He was in the Fairbanks district during the early fight of the Guggenheim interests for an Alaska foothold. Some of the history of that early fight also was translated into novel form in Beach's "Iron Trail."</p> <p>Wickersham rode into Congress and stayed there on his anti-Guggenheim issue. Originally a Republican, he became a "Progressive," but more</p> |
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| | <p>than anything else he was a whole party by himself. George Grigsby, the Democratic nominee, once was District Attorney at Nome and on the face of 1918 returns was elected as Delegate, but Wickersham contested and won the seat.</p> <p>While he spent long months in Washington awaiting the outcome of his contest, Wickersham worked on his Alaska history, which he subsequently retired to Juneau to finish.</p> <p>Among the important bills he introduced and succeeded in having passed in Congress were those incorporating the City of Fairbanks; establishing the</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 October 27</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>[clipping continued]</p> <p>Territorial Legislature; authorizing the location and construction of a Federal Government Railroad from Seward to Fairbanks; providing for the granting by the Federal Government of four sections of land as a site for the Agricultural College and School of Mines, now the University of Alaska, and for the setting aside of Section 33 in each township in the Tanana Valley for the support of the educational institution; and authorizing the erection of the Territorial and Federal Building at Juneau.</p> <p>Judge Wickersham edited eight volumes of the Alaska Law Reports, and is the author of "Old Yukon," a comprehensive historical work of 514 pages, published the same year.</p> <p>Stormy, trigger-quick conversationalist, heavily knowledged "Wickersham" has left us and hit the trail with the other pioneers of Alaska that preceded him in death.</p> <p>Alaska lost a grand man who lived a grand life for Alaska.</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN MEMORIAM JAMES WICKERSHAM Born August 24, 1957 Affiliated October 30, 1935 Died October 23, 1939 -----</p> |

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| | <p style="text-align: center;">HANS WICK [of Petersburg] Born March 9, 1882 Initiated January 26, 1928 Died October 28, 1939</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 November 8</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">8 {Nov. 8, 1939}</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bar Honors Late Judge Resolutions on Death of Wickersham Adopted at Ketchikan Court</p> <p>Last Saturday in the District Court at Ketchikan a joint report was presented to the court on behalf of the members of the bar of Juneau and Ketchikan on the death of Judge James Wickersham. Committees had been appointed the week before by the Bar Associations of the two places to prepare suitable resolutions.</p> <p>Upon presentation of the report the court set aside the remainder of the forenoon session to honor the memory of Judge Wickersham.</p> <p>Tributes were paid to the late member of the bar, jurist and distinguished citizen by H.L. Faulkner on behalf of the Juneau Bar, by Judge Lester O. Gore on behalf of the Ketchikan Bar and by Judge George F. Alexander.</p> <p>The proceedings were ordered spread upon the court records of November 4 and entered in the journals at Ketchikan and Juneau. The following is the report and resolution:</p> <p>The proceedings of the Bar of Ketchikan and Juneau, appointed to prepare suitable resolutions on the death of Judge Wickersham, herewith present to the Court the following:</p> <p>Our esteemed friend and brother member of the Bar and former Judge of this Court, Honorable James Wickersham, after a long life and many useful years spent in the service of the Territory, having been called by death on October 24, 1939, at Juneau.</p> <p>And the members of the Bar of Ketchikan and of</p> |

Juneau, feeling most keenly the loss of its most distinguished member; one who has made a name for himself which will live as long as recorded history; a name as Judge, Representative of Alaska in Congress, lawyer, friend, neighbor and citizen of the highest character, come now before the Court at Ketchikan, over which our esteemed friend at one time so ably presided, and request the Court to order spread upon the journal of this day's proceedings, the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That in the death of Honorable James Wickersham the Territory of Alaska has lost one of its foremost, most beloved and most valued citizens, the Bar of Alaska one of its most distinguished and outstanding members, esteemed by all as one of the wisest and best, and his wife a loving husband, constant and dear companion and source of strength and happiness;

That we extend to Mrs. Grace Wickersham our most profound sympathy, and while conscious of the fact that any attempt on our part to beguile her from her grief at this time would be weak and fruitless, we know that she will always take solemn pride in the privilege which was hers in the companionship of our late friend and brother at a time when his life was at its fullest and best.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That on this day, in Open Court, a time be set aside to honor the memory of Judge Wickersham, when the members of the Bar of this Court may express their appreciation of his work, and their sorrow in their loss and the loss of the Territory, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That a copy of this Resolution, after being spread upon the journals of the court in Ketchikan and Juneau, be sent by the Clerk to Mrs. Wickersham.

HARRY G. McCAIN,
Chairman of Ketchikan Committee.
H.L. FAULKNER,
Chairman of Juneau Committee.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, That the foregoing Report and Resolution of the Ketchikan and

Juneau Bar Associations be spread upon the minutes of this day's court proceedings and entered in the journals at Juneau and Ketchikan.
DONE IN OPEN COURT at Ketchikan, Alaska, this 4th day of November, 1939.
GEORGE F. ALEXANDER,
District Judge.

Diary 47, 1939
November 22

[clipping]

WICKERSHAM
WILL FILED
FOR PROBATE
{Empire, Nov. 22, 1939}
Widow, Son Left \$23,100
Estate – Painting and
Moose for Territory

Bequeathing property valued conservatively at \$23,100, the will of the late James Wickersham was offered for probate today at the office of U.S. Commissioner Felix Gray.

The will, drawn by the former Judge and Delegate just 10 days before his death, left the bulk of the estate to the widow, Grace Wickersham of Juneau, and his son, Darrell Palmer Wickersham of San Francisco.

To the Territory of Alaska was left a large oil painting of William H. Seward to be hung in the Governor's office and a great mounted moose head for the Territorial Legislative Hall. The moose head, now in the Alaska Game Commission office, was a gift to Judge Wickersham by friends in Cordova in 1912 following passage of the Alaska Organic Act.

Outside the widow, son and the Territory, there were no other beneficiaries.

Library Left Widow

The famous Wickersham library of Alaskan literature was left to Mrs. Wickersham with the hope that it might be sold in a body to "some institution of learning." In the petition for probate, also filed today, the library is estimated as worth \$10,000. The collection consists of books, histories, pictures, baskets and anthropological specimens.

The will chose Mrs. Wickersham as executrix

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| | <p>and Darrell Wickersham as executor. Witnesses to its signing on October 14 were Mildred R. Hermann and Russell A. Hermann. Mrs. Hermann is representing Mrs. Wickersham in the probate procedure. A hearing on the widow's petition for probate and appointment of executrix has been set by Judge Gray for December 6.</p> <p>Wickersham requested in the will that his body be cremated and the ashes buried with the bodies of his first wife and their two sons at Tacoma. The widow also is to be buried there if she so directs, the will provides.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Property Listed</p> <p>To Mrs. Wickersham is left the Wickersham home and two lots at Seventh and Seward Streets, valued at \$8,500; 160 acres of land near Homer; a house and lot between the Bishop Apartments and the Northern Light Presbyterian Church, valued at \$3,000; the furnishings of the two houses, valued at \$1,000; office equipment and lawbooks, valued at \$500; three lots in Tacoma and two in Seattle; all other real and personal property in Alaska, and cash and credits estimated at \$100.</p> <p>To the son is left a dairy ranch in the State of Washington, the cemetery lot in Tacoma where Darrell's mother is buried; a gold nugget-covered watch and chain presented by the Fairbanks Bar in 1907; a copy of the book, "Lewis and Dryden's Marine History of the Pacific Northwest 1895," and the Judge's [Darrell's] Grandmother's family Bible "with her name, Susan Bell, on the cover."</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1939 November 22</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">{Alaska Press – Juneau} NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTRIX</p> <p>In the Probate Court for the Territory of Alaska, Division Number One, Juneau Precinct. Before the Honorable Felix Gray, United States, Commissioner and ex-officio probate</p> |

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| | <p>judge.</p> <p>IN THE MATTER of the Last Will and Testament of James Wickersham, deceased.</p> <p>Notice is hereby given that Mrs. Grace Wickersham has petitioned the above entitled Court for an order directing the probate of the Last Will and Testament of James Wickersham, deceased and for the appointment of herself as executrix thereof, and of the estate of said decedent, and it is ordered that a hearing be held upon such petition before the undersigned at Juneau, Alaska, on the 6th day of December, 1939, at 10 A.M. at which time and place any person interested may appear and contest the petition as provided by law.</p> <p>Witness my hand and official seal this 22nd day of November, 1939, at Juneau, Alaska.</p> <p>(SEAL) FELIX GRAY U.S. Commissioner and ex-officio probate judge.</p> <p>First Pub. 11-22-1939 Last Pub. 12-4-1939</p> <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JUDGE JAMES WICKERSHAM</p> <p>Funeral services for James Wickersham, 82 years old, former United States District Court judge in Alaska and one-time congressional delegate from the territory, will be held at 3 o'clock Thursday at the Bonney-Watson Funeral Home.</p> <p>The Right Rev. Peter T. Rowe, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska, who now is in California on business, will fly to Seattle to conduct the service, it was announced today. The body of Judge Wickersham, who died last Tuesday in Juneau, resided in Tacoma before going to Alaska in 1900.</p> <p>Surviving are the widow, Grace, Juneau; a son, Darrell P. Wickersham, U.S.N., San Francisco; two brothers, Harry. of Buckley, Pierce County, and Frank Wickersham, Cambria, Calif., and a niece, Ruth Coffin, Seattle.</p> |
| <p>Diary 47, 1941</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">30</p> |

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| March 30 | <p>[clipping]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">{Alaska Daily Empire March 30, 1941</p> <p>Seward Portrait Given to Territory By Wickersham Estate</p> <p>Carrying out an expressed desire of the late Judge James Wickersham, the oil painting of Secretary William H. Seward which long adorned the Wickersham home was presented to the Territory on Alaska's Seward Day by Mrs. Grace Wickersham.</p> <p>The Judge, a lifetime student of everything that pertained to Alaska's past, regarded this painting as the best of several portraits that had been made of the Secretary of State who negotiated the Alaska purchase from Russia. It was painted by H. Kauffman in the latter years of the Secretary's life. The canvas is about two and one-half by three and one-half feet in dimension and is incased in a well-designed gilt frame with glass.</p> <p>In accepting the painting on behalf of the Territory, Governor Gruening said, "Alaska is grateful for the gift of this excellent portrait of the man to whom we are chiefly indebted for bringing this great north country into the fold of the United States. Without his vision and tenacity of purpose there can be little doubt but that Alaska would today be foreign soil. We can be sure that Judge Wickersham was well aware that acquaintanceship with such significant mementos of the past as this portrait helps to stimulate pride and interest in this Territory among Alaskans. As a leader among those who pioneered the work of implanting American culture and institutions in this new land he, himself, doubtless drew inspiration to carry on from his constant delving into Alaska's rich historical background."</p> <p>The picture is to be hung on the walls of the broad staircase leading up from the main floor in the Governor's House.</p> |
| Diary 47, 1941 December 26 | <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>[clipping]</p> |

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| | <p style="text-align: center;">THE ALASKA WEEKLY, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1941 WICKERSHAM LIBRARY IS DELIVERED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Library of the Late Judge Wickersham Taken Over by Territory of Alaska</p> <p>JUNEAU.- Mrs. James Wickersham, widow of the late Judge Wickersham, former Alaska delegate to Congress, will receive \$17,500 for her husband's library of Alaskan documents and literature, it was announced by Gov. Ernest Gruening.</p> <p>A sum not to exceed \$20,000 was set aside by the Territorial Museum and Library here. The grant to Mrs. Wickersham will leave \$2,50 to defray the cost of cataloguing the volumes and putting them in shape for use in the Territorial Library, it was explained.</p> <p>The purchase of the books was completed at a meeting of the museum board in the governor's office. The books have already been turned over to the Territorial Library, it was explained, but no adequate accommodations for their display have been arranged.</p> |
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