Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Bayers, Lloyd H., 1911-1968
Captain Lloyd H. “Kinky” Bayers Collection, 1898-1967
MS 10

Alaska Historical Files

asl.historical@alaska.gov
907 465-2925
PO Box 110571
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0571
Gulf Stream----see STRANGE RIVER pp. 18 S&S Winter 1955
Emp. 7/19/1940/6 in a story on Sitka men chartering Shell Simmons and his Lockheed to look for albacore tuna 100 miles off Sitka---the Japanese current is called "Koshiwiro" 
(Somewhere I have something on Japanese current in which it is called "Kuro-shiva" or some such name.) CHECK!
11/26/1928 A 30' wide 'ocean' has been discovered near the geographical center of the U.S. A salt-water pool near Cawker City, Kansas. It is known as Waconda springs (Indian for Great Spirit) Never freezes or changes level.

8/25/1948/8 Tuna caught near Ketchikan. Ocean temp 64°
ODD NAMES OF PLACES IN ALASKA

See card this file on UNUSUAL NAMES OF PLACES
Petroleum was known in 2000 BC. 

History of discovery of oil in Alaska:

A V.G. account—summer of 1898.

W.G. Cheney, first man to drill for oil in Alaska (at Katalla) is in Juneau.

Oil permits issued to 6 persons—-in the Cold Bay and Katalla districts and near Anchorage....

All fuel oil will be found in the Cold Bay area. (Something in every paper since Sept. 5th about oil stampede etc.

Oil drilling started at Cold Bay.

Most powerful oil drilling plant in the world has been set up by the Std. Oil Co. at Cold Bay.

Associated Oil Co. abandons well in Cold Bay area.

Heavy flow of gas at Kanatak stops Std. Oil from drilling further. Down 3015 ft.
Emp. 3/23/1926 Standard Oil Co. stops drilling in one part of Cold Bay and may start in another place.

Emp. 4/3/1926 W.J. Erskine of Kodiak says the Standard Oil quit drilling at Kanatak because of the high costs under present conditions.

Emp. 5/20/1926/8 General Petroleum Co. ready to drill for oil at Yakataga.

Emp. 6/23/1926 Std. Oil Co. quits Kanatak oil drilling...

Emp. 1/5/1927/7 V.G. History of first oil well in 1859 in Pennsylvania. Edwin L. Drake had Wm. A. Smith drill it for him. 69' down they struck oil, etc...

Emp. 1/10/1927/6 General Petroleum Co. files articles of incorporation in Alaska.


3/22/1939/8 Std. and Associated Oil Co's. resume drilling in Jute Bay on the Alaska Peninsula.
6/23/1936/3 Oil men to try for gusher in Iniskin Bay.
7/27/1937/6 Report oil strike at Haines---13 to 20' down.
VG grade too.....

6/24/56--Oil search to start in Yakutat area---from there
down to Cape Fairweather---by Colorado Oil & Gas. Co.
million & a qtr. acre lease.

Men and equipment arr. at Yakutat to drill for oil for the
Colorado Oil & Gas Co. One million & a qtr. acre area.
Geologists working between Yakutat Bay and Mt. Fairweather
& have a helicopter.  (KDN. 6/27/56)

Strollers 8/27/1921-- Anchorage Times claims that geological
indications and seepages prove that an oil field
underlies the area.

2/3/1938 Alaska Oil Explorations to be pushed at once!
Standard, Union and Tidewater to drill on Alaska Penn.
across from Kodiak Island.

2/10/1938/8 MV. "Suaco" 63' here with S d. Oil drilling
crew for Larsen Bay.
More on Oil—S.S. "Northwind" chartered by Iniskin Bay Oil Co. Iniskin and Cold Bay both looked good last summer.

Geologists hunt for oil at Yakataga, Katalla and Jute Bay for the Std and Associated Oil Companys.

Gas may gush at Iniskin Bay—pressure terrific.

Oil tests fizzle at Chitina Bay—Iniskin oil drilling operations.

Ten BBLS. oil flow from Iniskin Drilling Co. well which is down 7500'.

Iniskin Oil Co. down 8260' in 'good sand and oil strata'.

Oil hole at Chitina Bay of Iniskin Oil Drilling Co. is now down over 8500' and still passing through shale and oil sands.

Iniskin Oil Drilling Co. stops for this year. Are down over 8700' and no oil yet.

Big gusher comes in at "Cotella" (Katalla) Before being capped the oil gushed to 150'. See good description and story in VALDEZ PROSPECTOR for 9/11/1902.
Seattle P. I. 2/24/1957--- What makes the oil in an oil well shoot up into the air when the well is drilled? Ans. Natural gas, which lies under pressure in the pores of the rocks and sand where the oil is located. As the well is bored into the earth, this gas is released, and it spurts up to the surface, bringing oil and mud with it.

DISCOVERY AND HISTOR OF OIL. (NOTE BOOK No. 27; pp 90--91)

8/14/1945 Navy drilling test well at Umiat (Barrow)

9/12/1945 Petroleum indications in Western Alaska about 150 miles W. of Kodiak on Alaska Penn.

K. Chron. 4/4/1937 Over $400,000 spent in Iniskin Oil Drilling last season and more to be spent this year says Supt. H. E. Havenstrite.

7/16/1949 Beach oil seepage at Katalla is under inspection

7/25/1949 Natural gas found in Arctic (Pt. Barrow area.)

4/29/1952 New Oil Well to be drilled near Cordova.

5/7/1952 Deep Rock Oil Co. of Tulsa, Okla. to explore the Katalla area this summer.

12/31/1952 Shell Oil Co. plans Alaska oil searches next year at Katalla, Yakutat and Cooks Inlet.
D.A. Disp. 10/30/1899 Petroleum discovered in Cook's Inlet near Kyak Island—with traces of oil found for 20 miles around the Island.

1/31/1903 ALASKAN (Sitka) VG Kayak Oil fields. More 5/23/1903 and all thru this paper from Jan. on.