

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Juneau Spruce Corporation

Juneau Spruce Corporation Records, 1947-1956 (bulk 1947-1955)

MS 191

2 boxes
2 linear ft.

Processed By: Anne Laura Wood

ACQUISITION: The Southern Oregon Historical Society acquired the records of the Juneau Spruce Corp. with records from the Medford Corporation and donated them to the Historical Library July 9, 2001. (Acc. no. 2001-048).

ACCESS: Access to the collection is unrestricted.

COPYRIGHT: Requests for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: The original order of the records was generally maintained. The collection is arranged in reverse chronological order within series. Acidic newspaper clippings were discarded after being photocopied on acid-neutral paper. (A 4-page article from the Territory of Hawaii's *Honolulu Advertiser* was retained as an artifact.) Original Western Union telegraphs were sleeved in Mylar and retained. Duplicate records were discarded. Some folders were renamed for clarity.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Juneau Spruce Corp. began its sawmill operation in Juneau April 30, 1947, at 496 S. Franklin Street, previous site of Juneau Lumber Co. A "million dollar company, owned primarily in Oregon," it was created from the combined assets of the Juneau Lumber Company, Juneau Logging Company and Juneau Motorship Company. H.F. Chaney of Portland, Oregon, was named first president and E.S. Hawkins was vice president and resident manager.

Difficulties plagued Juneau Spruce Corp. from the beginning. Although the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers originally agreed to buy all lumber in excess of what was sold retail, the agreement had been withdrawn and the new company found it necessary to build dock facilities, lease barges, purchase a sea-going tug and find new markets almost immediately. Mill renovations forced the mill's closure 6 months after opening, from December 1947 until March 10, 1948. By March of 1948, the company had spent \$2,500,000. and was operating at a net loss.

The question of union jurisdiction for barge-loading existed from the beginning. Contracts had not been renewed with the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU) or the International Woodworkers of America (IWA), but instead, Juneau Spruce Corp. negotiated a new contract with the IWA in Nov. of 1947. On April 9, 1948, ILWU picketed the sawmill and shut the mill for another year, less than a month after it had reopened. Troubles continued for Juneau Spruce Corp. By threatening to stop all shipments of Alaska frozen fish through their port, Juneau Longshoremen convinced Prince Rupert Longshoremen to strike the company barges in Prince Rupert.

On August 21, 1948, the National Labor Relations Board charged the ILWU with violation of the Taft-Hartley Act. The ILWU appealed and on October 8, 1948, the *Juneau Daily Empire* reported that Juneau Spruce Corp. would close its doors with no plans to reopen. On April 2, 1949 the ILWU was found guilty of unfair labor practices and ordered to pay \$750,000 in damages. They appealed to the Supreme Court claiming the Territory's lack of jurisdiction but the decision was upheld. On August 8, 1949, a 19-year old worker, James McClellan, was killed at the Juneau sawmill and on August 28 the sawmill was completely destroyed by fire.

On Jan. 7, 1952, the *Seattle Daily Times* headlines read:

High Court Upholds \$750,000 Award Against Bridges' Union for Picketing.
... The suit charged that Harry Bridges' International Longshoremen's Union damaged the company's business by setting up picket lines and making "coercive" statements during a jurisdictional row between rival labor organizations. ... His union was expelled from the CIO for the leadership following Communist Party line.

June 27, 1955, Juneau Spruce Corp. collected \$250,000 from the ILWU, less than half the original settlement. The company had not operated successfully for over six years. On December 19, 1955, a certificate of final dissolution was filed and the company was sold to Juneau Lumber Company.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The collection includes correspondence, minutes of meetings, stock certificates, deeds, leases, and newspaper clippings, dating from the company's incorporation in 1947 through its dissolution in 1955 and includes the ILWU strike, subsequent mill shut-down and ensuing legal proceedings. The collection also includes U.S. Forest Service Tongass National Forest maps, a few photographs and publications.

INVENTORY

BOX 1

- 1 Book of Minutes, 1947-1955 [bound]
 - Certificate of Incorporation under the Territory of Alaska
 - Articles of Incorporation
 - By-Laws
 - Minutes of the Annual Directors Meetings
 - Minutes of Special Meetings of the Board of Directors
 - Minutes of the Annual Stockholders Meetings
 - Annual Reports
 - Statements of Profit and Loss
 - Memorandum of Agreement between Juneau Spruce Corp. and the ILWU
 - Certificate of Dissolution
- 2 Certificate of Amendment of Articles of Incorporation
- 3 Minutes of Meetings of Directors & Stockholders, Managers & Foremen [1947-1950]
- 4 Book of Cancelled Common Stock Certificates Nos. 1-89
- 5 Book of Cancelled Preferred Stock Certificates Nos. 1-75
 - Missing Preferred Stock Certificates Nos. 76-77
 - Blank Preferred Stock Certificates Nos. 78-100
- 6 Stockholder Lists
- 7 Stockholder Proxies
- 8 Stock Ownership 1947-1955 [Includes copies of final liquidating checks.]
- 9 Secretary's File, 1947-48
 - Correspondence
 - Agreement between Juneau Lumber Mill, Independent Lumber Co. and Juneau Spruce Corp., dated April 30, 1947
 - Agreement to purchase, February 15, 1947
 - Assignment of Option, February 15, 1947
 - Assignment of rights to purchase Juneau Lumber Mill, April 24, 1947
- 10 Secretary's File, 1949-53 [Correspondence, copies of meeting minutes, "Plan of Complete Liquidation"]
- 11 Secretary's File, 1954-56
- 12 Dissolution and Liquidation, 1955-1956 [Dissolution schedule, stockholders' consent, disbursement of settlement.]

BOX 2

- MS 191: Juneau Spruce Corporation Records, 1947-1956 (bulk 1947-1955) Alaska State Library
- 13 ILWU- National Labor Relations Board - Edna Bay Camp 1947-1949
 - 14 ILWU- National Labor Relations Board - Muma, Levi W. 1950
 - 15 ILWU- National Labor Relations Board - Int'l Woodworkers of America - Barge Loading 1948-1949
 - 16 ILWU- National Labor Relations Board - Int'l Woodworkers of America - Ketchikan - Strike at Edna Bay 1948
 - 17 ILWU Lawsuit, 1948-49, correspondence, newspaper clippings documenting strike and hearing, "Full Report of Fact Finding Committee..." May 7, 1948
 - 18 ILWU Lawsuit 1950-51
 - "Appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals" from the District Court for the Territory of Alaska, May 5, 1951
 - "Brief of Appellee" to the U.S. Court of Appeals 9th Circuit
 - Correspondence
 - Newspaper clippings documenting strike, hearings
 - "Respondent's Brief" ILWU v. Juneau Spruce Corp. [ca Nov. 28, 1951]
 - 19 ILWU Lawsuit 1952-55
 - Correspondence
 - Supreme Court's decision against Harry Bridges and ILWU (clippings); damages and settlement; article, "Court freezes ILWU assets"
 - Telephone conversation: Harry Bridges and Ken Finnesey (transcription)
 - 20 ILWU Lawsuit - Personal Papers of Marc Boles
 - Biennial Report of the Department of Labor, Territory of Alaska
 - Juneau Spruce Corp. Financial Statement, March 31, 1949
 - Ledger sheets of schedules and statements, with index
 - 21 Longshoremen Payments - Specific Purposes and Related Billings
 - 22 Index to Schedules and Statements 1948-1949
 - 23 Legal Service Expenses - Lawsuit, 1948-53 - Hart, Spencer McColloch, Rockwood & Davies
 - 24 Dant & Russell - Accounts Receivable 1947-1950
 - 25 Legislation - 1949 [-1953] [Mostly correspondence relating to proposed amendment of Sec. 9, Taft Hartley Act.]
 - 26 Alcoa Mining Company, 445 Park Ave., NY 17, NY 1947-50 - Sale of Buildings & Equipment Edna Bay
 - 27 Juneau Lumber Co. (B.C. Canoles)- Sale of Juneau Plant
 - 28, 29 Deeds, Leases & Bills of Sale, Etc. (2 files)
 - 30 Dixon, J.R. - Sale of Portion of Tract "A" Fairbanks - Lawsuit & Settlement 1950-1955
 - 31 Anchorage Yard - Legal Papers 1947
 - 32 Fairbanks Yard - Legal Papers 1947
 - 33 Taxes: City of Juneau - Personal and Real Property Assessment Return, 1948
 - 34 Taxes: Territory of Alaska, 1947-1952
 - 35 Taxes: Federal Income, 1950-1955
 - 36 Maps & Blueprints
 - Alaska And Western Canada*, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service 1944, Scale 1" = approx. 140 mi. U.S. Department of the Interior Geological Survey. [with notations]
 - Alaska Communication System, Chart of Alaska Showing Stations To Which Commercial Communication Service Is Available*, Signal Corps, Dept. of the Army, Aug. 1, 1950.

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Alaska Dorothy Lake Project Taku Inlet Drainage from Aerial Surveys Drainage Area
 22.3 Sq. Miles, Water Power Reconnaissance, Tongass National Forest,
 2"=1mi., 1944. [blueline]
Crater, Long and Tease Lakes Projects, Port Snettisham Near Juneau, Alaska U.S. Dept.
 of Agriculture, Forest Service, Tongass National Forest, 1"=8,000' May 18,
 1923." [blueline]
Map of Alaska. Scale 1:5,000,000 (approx. 80 mi. to 1 in. "Alaska, Map A." 1941.
 [with notations]
 "Plant property lines." [blueline]
Plat of Exterior Lines of U.S. Survey No. 7A, Juneau Townsite Addition, July 25, 1913.
Property Map Juneau Spruce Corp. 1 in. = 40 ft., July 11, 1947.
Tongass National Forest Alaska Copper River Meridian, 1940 . U.S. Dept. of
 Agriculture, Forest Service, 1in. = 10 mi., 1940 by W. R. Calvert,
 Washington Office. [with notations]
Tongass National Forest Alaska Copper River Meridian, 1946. U.S. Dept. of
 Agriculture, Forest Service, 1 in. = 10 mi., 1939, rev. 1946. [with notations]
- 37 Tongass National Forest Literature
Distribution and the mechanical properties of Alaska woods. 1931. Markwardt, L.J.
 Tech. Bulletin No. 226. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. (80 p.,
 b&w photographs.)
Forests of Alaska. 1944. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, Alaska Region.
 (16 p., map.)
Opportunities for minor wood product industries in Alaska. 1945. Blackerby, Alva W.
 U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, AK Region. (20 p., map.)
 "Proposal for the development of the pulp and paper-making industry in Alaska,
 April 10, 1944." U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service. (17 p., map.)
Region of fiords and forests; nature unchanged. [n.d.] Tongass National Forest.
 Juneau Chamber of Commerce, Juneau, AK. (text, map)
 "Sale prospectus, 1,500,000,000 cu. ft., Ketchikan Pulp-timber Unit, Tongass
 National Forest, Alaska, 1947." U.S. Forest Service, Washington, D.C. (12
 p. [typescript], map)
Sitka spruce. July, 1945. Betts, H.S. Forest Service. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.
 Washington : GPO. (5 p.)
 "Timber estimated by pulptimber allotments." May 12, 1947. Tongass National
 Forest Alaska. (1 leaf, typescript, map with notations)
Tongass National Forest Alaska. 1940. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service
 Alaska Region. Washington : GPO. (46 p., map, b&w photographs.)
Trade & industry now in Alaska. 1946. Juneau, AK : Alaska Development Board.
 (71 p., ill.)
 "U.S. proposes to sell big timber stands for private pulp industry in Alaska."
 May, 1944. Reprinted from *North American Review Number, Pacific Pulp &
 Paper Industry*, Seattle, Washington. (6 p., ill.)
- 38 Miscellaneous publications
Transcript of Record in Two Volumes. ca. 1950. [ILWU, Appellants v. Juneau Spruce
 Corp., Appellee] U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. San Francisco, CA:
 Phillips & Van Orden Co. (1,097 p.)
Examination of Financial Statements by Independent Public Accountants. Jan., 1936.
 New York, NY: American Institute of Accountants. (41 p.)

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Minimum Property Requirements for Properties of One or Two Living Units Located in the Territory of Alaska. 1947. National Housing Agency, Federal Housing Administration, Juneau Insuring Office. [47 p.]
Revenue Act of 1948 with Explanation Including New Pay-As-You-Go withholding Tables. April, 1948 ed. New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc. (64 p.)
- 39 Photographs - U.S. Forest Service
Crater Lake, east side, Port Snettisham FS-Z-23 6/22/29
Lake Dorothy, looking south FS-Z-56A 3/4/29
Long Lake, Port Snettisham FS-Z-24 6/22/29
[Timber cruiser in forest]
[Spruce forest] 397927
[Spruce forest]
[Unidentified harbor] FS-MI 7-1-29