Election of 1916.

Address to the People of Alaska

More than 250 qualified electors in the Fairbanks district, where I reside, have signed and filed with the proper official a petition in accordance with the law, for my nomination as a candidate for Delegate to Congress, from Alaska.

Having concluded to yield to general demand from Alaskans to make the race I hereby announce the principles and purposes for which I shall stand in case of my election. I shall stand for:

1. The lawful control of transportation rates to, from, and in Alaska, and the reduction of present extortionate rates to reasonable standards; the prevention of rebates to favored shippers and of unlawful combinations in restraint of trade.

2. The enforcement of the Interstate Commerce and Anti-Trust laws in Alaskan trade, commerce and transportation.

3. The prompt completion of the government railroad from Seward to Fairbanks, via the Matanuska and Nenana coal fields, and into the Iditarod; the extension of a system of public roads and trails and government telegraph lines to all parts of the Territory.

4. The passage of laws by Congress for the extension of the powers of the Alaska Legislature over fisheries and fur bearing animals, and the enactment of such laws as will save the fisheries from destruction and encourage the settlement of a population of fishermen along our coasts; the enactment of such laws as will require those engaged in Alaskan fisheries to pay their just proportion of taxes for the development of Alaska and her government.

5. The enactment of laws by Congress extending the powers of our Legislature so as to permit the full development of an American type of Territorial government in Alaska, with power to enable her citizens to protect their own & the public interest, and to increase the general prosperity without limit.

6. Statehood for Alaska as soon as it can be organized in the interest and to the advantage of the people.

7. The prevention of further extension and the repeal of the present bureaucratic form of government in Alaska, whereby bureau clerks in Washington really govern her people by the issuance of “rules and regulations” having the force of laws.

8. The abandonment of the present useless and harmful forest and other reservations in Alaska, whereby great bodies of our lands are withdrawn from settlement and use by the people and form a basis of bureau control from Washington without rational excuse and to the great loss of the national treasury.

9. Opposition to the levy of any tax on “trade or business in Alaska by Congress, and the repeal of the law now providing for such system, and the control of all taxation in Alaska by the Territorial Legislature.

10. The centralized control of all national administration activities in Alaska by a national administrative body, to the end that there may be one business head to such work instead of twenty or more.

11. The appointment of Alaska Alaskans, and none other, to appointive offices in Alaska; and I utterly repudiate that plank in the Seward platform seeking to take away from the people of Alaska their right to be consulted in the consideration of such appointments, and the sole power of naming such officials to a Seattle lawyer; it is un-American, un-Republican and the beginning of boss rule in Alaska by the great corporations able to employ the lawyer; I pledge the people of Alaska that if I am elected I will not recommend any man for an appointive office in Alaska who is not first approved
by the people of the Territory, and by those residing in the vicinity where he is to serve.

12. The enactment of primary election laws for the purpose of enabling the people by their votes to control their conventions and the nomination of their officials without the corrupt manipulation of political bosses.

13. Continued opposition to the efforts of interested copper companies to secure the passage of a bill in Congress for the appointment of a Commission to revise the United States mineral land laws in Alaska; their purpose is to take away from the Territorial Legislature of Alaska the power to later, amend or revise such laws in Alaska, and to disapprove and repeal all such laws heretofore passed by or Legislature and rob it of all power to legislate hereafter on that subject in Alaska. It is a scheme to extend to all mineral lands in Alaska the principle of reservation and leasing by a government bureau in Washington, after the plan of the Alaska coal leasing law, which was drawn by Secretary Lane, approved by Mr. Gifford Pinchot, introduced by Congressman Ferris, of Oklahoma, passed by a Democratic Congress and signed by President Wilson. I shall oppose such reservation and leasing of placer and quartz mineral lands in Alaska, and favor the revision of such laws, when necessary, only by Congress or by the Alaska Legislature.

14. Finally, I shall support Hughes and Fairbanks, and the National Republican Platform, unless they or those representing them shall interfere with the passage of needful and beneficial laws for Alaska, in which event I shall stand by Alaska and her interests, as I always have done, without regard to party threat or favor.

STATEMENT

To the end that the people of Alaska may know the facts touching the refusal of those in charge of the Seward Convention to endorse my candidacy for Delegate to Congress the following correspondence is made public:

---

**JUNEAU, ALASKA, January 10, 1916.**

HON. JAMES WICKERSHAM,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Judge:  
Following a conversation with Mr. Louis P. Shackleford, regarding the political situation in Alaska, I feel that the time has arrived for an amalgamation of the factions in the party.  
Mr. Shackleford informs me that he realizes if the party is to have strength before the voters, the candidates for office should not be hand picked, but represent the rank and file of the party. Therefore, he feels that if arrangements can be made so that the Republicans of the First Division can be free to regulate their own affairs, he sees no objection to your nomination as Delegate by the Republican Convention.

Personally, I feel as if there could be a working agreement arrived at for the First Division, which would protect both the Wickersham and Shackleford factions under one banner.

I promised Mr. Shackleford that if I could secure your consent, I would make a trip with him to Seattle in February to confer with you there. It appears Charles Herron has been trying to play both ends against the middle, and the time appears right for a line up which will control the Republican policies in Alaska.

Kindly wire me if you will attend the Seattle conference and your preference for date, and after conferring with Mr. Shackleford, I will wire you concerning meeting you there.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,  
Yours very truly,  
ED C. RUSSEL"  

My answer was a telegram as follows:  
"WASHINGTON, D.C., January 19, 1916.  
ED. C. RUSSELL,  
Juneau, Alaska.  
Impossible leave Washington for meeting Seattle suggested in letter tenth.  
JAMES WICKERSHAM."

Thereafter the Seattle papers published
statements and interviews from Mr. C.D. Murane and Mr. Wm. A Gilmore, two prominent Seattle attorneys claiming to hold a block of proxies to the Seward Convention, saying that I would not be considered as a candidate by that convention without I agreed to surrender all power of recommendation in appointments to Alaskan offices, in case of national Republican success, to them and their friends; similar statements from Alaskan sources were said to be made by Mr. Shackleford. To prevent any misunderstanding on that question at the Seward convention I addressed the following open letter to the Delegates to the Seward Convention, and forwarded the same to Alaskan newspapers for publication in advance of that meeting.


Gentlemen:
The people of Alaska seem to have concluded that there ought to be an effective organization of the Republican as well as the Democratic party in the Territory, and many of my most active friends and supports have joined in the movement and are among your number. In view of their announced intention to present my name to your convention and because of many rumors tending to create misunderstanding and contention thereafter I feel impelled in fairness to my political opponents to make this public statement in advance of any action on your part.

I have not and will not enter into any combination or agreement with or against any person or faction in or out of the Republican organization for the control of patronage, in whole or in part, or at all, or for the control of my actions in any way whatever as the representative of all the people of Alaska, or for any other purpose. I will not be bound by any pledge made for me without it is clearly stated in the platform or resolutions adopted by the convention. I seems to me there can be no successful unity of action or reorganization of the Republican party in Alaska without entire frankness with the men and women who do the voting, and because of that I address this communication to you in this public manner. I can better do without the nomination or the election to Congress than be placed in the attitude of having betrayed either my associates or the people whom I have represented with such freedom and confidence for eight years, and whom I must continue to represent with freedom and confidence, or not at all.

In the event of my election, I pledge myself to harmony and fair dealing toward friends and past opponents alike, to the support of the bill which I have already introduced granting more extended powers to the territorial government, to the support of the Statehood bill, to the creation of better transportation conditions and the control and reduction of burdensome freight rates, and generally to the upbuilding of the industries natural to our Territory and to the development of its great natural resources free from monopoly and unjust restraint. If you nominate me upon this understanding there will be but little chance for contention and disagreement hereafter.

Respectfully,
JAMES WICKERSHAM.”

While the clans were gathering at Seward, among other interesting telegrams I received the following:

“CORDOVA, ALASKA, April 16, 1916.
JAMES WICKERSHAM,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Unless definite understanding highly probable you not receive nomination convention with Lloyd against you. Thisted, Hazelet small majority against organization. Shackleford who controls without your supporters will have to endorse straight candidate unless you give us assurance. Are you thoroughly informed and with or against organization program?

BOYLE, GOODALL, GOTTSCHALK, CHASE.”
Alaska State Library – Historical Collections
MS 107 BOX 4 DIARY 27

Diary of James Wickersham
July 23, 1916 through March 4, 1917

I answered as follows:

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 17, 1916.
EDWARD V. BOYLE,
Cordova, Alaska.
I do not understand what you mean. What definite understanding do you want and what about?
Threat to indorse straight candidate if I do not give assurance that I am with or against organization program unavailing until I know what the program is. What is it you want?
JAMES WICKERSHAM."

The reply to my inquiry came back in this form:

SEWARD, ALASKA, April 18, 1916.
HON. JAMES WICKERSHAM,
Deliver to Congress, Washington, D.C.
As suggested in your recent open letter of March thirtieth we wire you under separate night letter copy of plank platform which Russell chairman platform committee will insert convention platform affecting patronage. Urge you wire Russell immediately your acceptance platform with this plank. Agreed caucus majority delegates Wickersham for delegate, Murane National Committeeman, Scholfield Attorney General, Shackleford, Gilmore, delegates, Chicago, Russell, Gaustad, alternates. Platform covers every item mentioned your open letter. This is the best deal we can secure and have personal pledge every regular Republican attending convention will not only support ticket but organize legislative tickets every division, carry on aggressive and earnest campaign. We realize we must have your acceptance this plank to insure your nomination. Rush answer.
ED. C. RUSSELL, H. THISTED."

Another telegram accompanied the former containing the plank I must agree to, as follows:

SEWARD, ALASKA, April 18-'16.
JAS. WICKERSHAM, Delegate to Congress,
Washington, D.C.
We charge the Democratic administration with having ignored Alaskans in appointments to public office in this territory and with having disgraced our citizenship by the wholesale appointment of non-residents and carpet baggers in lieu of bona fide citizens and we condemn this un-American policy and practice as highly prejudicial to our people and detrimental to good government. We reaffirm our party slogan, Alaska for Alaskans, and demand that only bona fide citizens be appointed to public office. We believe that harmonious party organization and solidarity are basic principles controlling good government and to the end that our citizen voters shall have a voice in appointments to public office we pledge to the people of Alaska that all divisional appointments to public office shall be made only upon the joint endorsement of the Republican committee of that division and the Republican National Committeeman, and all other Presidential appointments to public office in Alaska shall be made only upon the recommendation of the Republican National Committeeman of this territory.
ED C. RUSSELL,
H. THISTED."

Acting upon the advice of Hon. Frank P. Woods, Chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee, I did not make any answer to those two telegrams.

Thereafter I received various telegrams from prominent Republicans in Alaska urging me to accept the terms of Murane, Irving and Shackleford and surrender my duty and supposed influence in the matter of Alaskan patronage to them on the assurance that they would nominate me through their Committee of Four from the Seward Convention, and give me an endorsement at the Republican Divisional Convention at Juneau. My answer to all these was contained in the following telegram:

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 2. 1916.
ED. C. RUSSELL,
Juneau, Alaska.
Telegrams received from you * * * advising me to
submit to the demands of the Shackleford organization and surrender the power and rights of the people of Alaska in relation to the appointments to Alaskan office in case Governor Hughes is elected President, in consideration that Mr. Shackleford allow his Committee of Four from the Seward Convention and his followers in the Republican Divisional Convention at Juneau to endorse me for Delegate. My letter of March thirtieth addressed to the Delegates at the Republican Territorial Convention at Seward is my final word on that subject. I will not barter away the smallest right or power of the people of Alaska, or my own right and duty as their representative, to Murane, George Irving, or Shackleford for their endorsement or support, or that of their blind followers. I decline to accept any nomination from Shackleford’s unauthorized committee of four from the Seward convention or to approve that plank in its platform establishing boss rule in Alaska. That plank will be repudiated by the Republican National administration and the Senate will refuse to confirm any one ap-

[?] to Alaskan once who approves it. I shall support Hughes and Fairbanks and their national platform, and be a candidate for Delegate to Congress from Alaska on the petition of her citizens free from corrupt boss rule, and I shall be glad to have the endorsement of the Juneau convention on that basis. If I am defeated on this platform I shall at least have preserved my own self-respect.

JAMES WICKERSHAM.”

HIYU CULTUS WA

In his messages to Congress on December 7, 1909, December 6, 1910, and February 2, 1912, President Taft denounced my bill providing for the creation of the Alaska Legislature and giving it power to enact laws for the people of Alaska. In that long and bitter contest he was aided by Col. Richardson, and other representatives of those who wished to exploit the Territory under the Beveridge bill. Among those who assisted me in that contest was my friend, Mr. John W. Troy, of Seattle. When the fortunes of war came our way, after three years fighting, and the bill passed the House of Representatives, I sent my friend Troy a copy of the bill, and was pleased when I received the following letter of approval from him:

“SEATTLE, May 17, 1912.
HON. JAMES WICKERSHAM,
Washington, D.C.
My Dear Sir:

Thank you for the copies of the territorial government bill as it passed the House and the copy of the Record with your great speech in advocacy of the measure. Pardon me, also, for not extending my congratulations to you upon the success of your long and strenuous efforts in behalf of an American government for the Alaska people before this. My thoughts were carried back to the many conversations we had on the little Tana nearly two years ago many times immediately after we became satisfied that the day of triumph was near, and I know how earnestly you have labored for the passage of a satisfactory bill. I have known thoroughly also how willing and anxious you were to have the bill please the people, caring more for the principle involved than for the details of the measure.

Your speech was a complete answer to the statements of the administration government. There is no come back. There can be none.

If the bill can only be gotten through the Senate and on the statute books, I am willing to quit and let Alaska work out its own salvation, not that it will not do that without anything I can do anyhow, but I always take up these matters as though the weight were largely on my shoulders. It is probably my own particular brand of egotism, though I always confess to myself that I am not doing much more than the rooter at a baseball game who thinks he is helping the pitcher get himself our of a tight place, and who feels that he is entitled to a large share of the credit for victory when the man on the mound tightens up and wins
the game.
With very best wishes for your continued success,
I am sincerely yours,
JOHN W. TROY."

Later when the battle had been won, after Congress had passed the bill and President Taft had approved it on August 24, 1912, and after my friend Troy had full knowledge of its contents, he sent me the following additional proof of his friendship and approval of my action and of that Organic Act, as it now stands on the statute books:

"ARCTIC CLUB, SEATTLE, August 25, 1921.
HON. JAMES WICKERSHAM,
Washington, D.C.
My Dear Judge:
I congratulate you sincerely upon the final success of your bill granting Alaska an elective territorial legislature. You are entitled to the gratitude of all people that are interested in the welfare of the Northern territory, and, what is better, you have that of nearly all of them that are worth while. I also congratulate you upon your third election as delegate to Congress. It was a merited verdict. For several weeks before the election it was apparent to any one acquainted with conditions in Alaska that you were billed for another triumph.

With very best wishes for your continued success, I am,
Sincerely yours
JNO. W. TROY."

My friend Troy is now the very able editor of the Juneau Daily Empire, and wastes great quantities of perfectly good printers' ink in denouncing the law creating and giving legislative power to the Alaska Legislature which he so earnestly assisted me to pass in 1912. What do you Alaskans think of my friend Troy? 

[end of pamphlet]
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           |       | The "Judge Durum" mentioned in the letter was Hon. Milton J. Durham, Member of Congress from Kentucky - 1873 -1879, and evidently one of my  
           |       | grandfathers friends. I am also in receipt from the Com. of Pensions of photographic copies of my Grandfathers application on formal office blanks, giving much  
           |       | other information, and am beginning now to look up the details of the Revolutionary record of his father - whose name unfortunately I do not know.  
           |       | [James Wickersham diagonally wrote “SAMPSON” over this]                                                                          |
| July 24   | 24    | Earnestly urge suggestions letter June 20. Request show to Russell.                                                                 |
| July 24   | 24    | Recd, the following telegram: Juneau, Alaska, July 22, 1916  
           |       | James Wickersham, Delegate to Congress, Wash. D.C.  
           |       | Battling hard secure your endorsement divisional Republican Convention. Shackleford due here Sunday. Conference prominent Republicans this section be held Monday take action delicate situation. Wire from you to Thane asking he assist heal breach between Shackleford and Wickersham forces build up substantial party organization in territory would be great help.  
           |       | Ed. Russell." Ed. is making it pretty strong, but I know him too well to go very strong so I sent the following.  

Diary 27, 1916 July 23

Secretary Lane has finally announced the location of the Alaska Mining Experiment Station at Fairbanks. In last Congress I introduced a bill for 4 stations in Alaska, but the Congress concluded that one was enough - Am in receipt of a telegram from Henry T. Ray, today as follows:  
Fairbanks, Alaska, July 23, '16,  
James Wickersham, Delegate from Alaska, Wash. D.C.  
Congratulations from our friends your success procuring latest benefit prospectors and miners, keep good work going. Your opponents very busy but unsuccessful make impression Sulzer failed come Fairbanks. Went Nome unable get line his campaign. Will inform you when find out.  
Henry T. Ray.

Diary 27, 1916 July 25

Obtained permission to extend my remarks in the Record on “Full Territorial Government in Alaska” and on the “Capitol Building at Juneau.” Will have the two speeches printed & circulated in Alaska - 10,000 copies.  
Have found a pretty complete history of the Wickersham family in America in “History Of Chester County, Pennsylvania,” 1881, by Futhery & Cop, page 763.  
Also in Pennsylvania Archives, Part 2. Sixth Series, Vol. XV. Index to 5th Series, p. 2427, where the Revolutionary service of my Grandfathers father is
pointed out.
Work in the office as usual.

Diary 27, 1916
July 26

-26th -
Recd the following telegram from Thane:
Juneau, Alaska, July 25, 1916
Hon. James Wickersham, Wash. D.C.
Replying to your request by wire July 24. I have shown same with your letter June 20 to your representative Ed. J. Russell. Have delayed acknowledging your letter because I felt whole situation was in hands of committee regularly appointed by Seward Convention for that purpose and they would soon take some definite action which would settle matters so far as organized Republicans in Alaska was concerned. I was personally very much interested in and lent such assistance as I was able to the end of bringing all Republicans interested together resulting in the Seward Convention. I know the effort to harmonize the various interests was sincere and have felt that in the acceptance of the platform by yourself should have been made regardless of advice to contrary which you have received, and believe such acceptance would have meant a complete Republican victory in Alaska for the party as well as yourself. In view of my personal support to local organization and Representative delegates to this end I believe it is proper such support should be continued to the Committee appointed by the Convention, and therefore believe matter rests properly in their hands and that any action you or other interested Republicans take should be initiated with such Committee. I do not know what action Committee will finally take under the circumstance, but appreciate the fact they must make some decision within the next two or three days. In my opinion only way you can obtain full support of Republican party is through regular organization and in order to accomplish this it would be best for you either advise such Committee direct yourself by wire to that end or authorize you representative here to do so. B.L. Thane.”

Now, what do you think of that? I showed this telegram to Woods, Ch. Rep. Cong. Com. and he nearly has a fit. He says "of course not," but he need not have said it for I will not even accept their invitation to "kowtow" and say "please." I can have my self respect if I am defeated but not if I permitted that "boss" to hand me. I can see Russell, Thane & Shackleford sending those telegrams & figuring out how to make me come in - but I won’t come, boys! NO ANSWER.

Diary 27, 1916
July 27-29

-27th -
Working on mail - etc same.
-28th -
Howdeshall & wife, from Juneau blew into town - they are on a trip & will go back to Juneau at once.
-29th -

Diary 27, 1916
July 29

29
Sam Bonnifield, ye old "sourdough" of Circle, Dawson, & Fairbanks was in today, & Dug. Morgan, the "fiddler." Dug. was wearing a new - a beautiful gold watch just won at shooting in the Tournament.
Received another telegram today from Ed. Russell, Juneau, asking me to say "please," as follows:
Juneau, Alaska, July 28, 1916
Hon. James Wickersham, Wash D.C.
Canvas delegates divisional convention show no chance your endorsement

unless approved by organization.
Party lines over legislative fight being tightly drawn. Pasties in influence here politically and otherwise not favorable action your behalf unless definite understanding protect party organization first and second divisions and two or three friends other divisions.
It is imperative order to secure appointment quali-
fied officers administer affairs these divisions lack any definite assurance on your part reorganization party organizing standing in way harmony. Advise you either communicate direct George Irving, chairman republican committeeeman Juneau. Or authorize some responsible party to represent you with assurance you have confidence their judgment, and honesty.

Ed C. Russell.

Took the telegram to Woods, Ch. Rep. Cong. Com. and gave it as my advise the time was now to cut off and decline to do barter with Geo. Irving or Shackleford, or to accept any nomination from them, but with his usual diplomacy he urged me to wait till after I had a talk with Wilcox, Ch. Rep. Nat. Com. in New York next week. I gave up against my own sense of doing the big act at the proper time & sent this telegram instead.


Ed. C. Russell,
Juneau, Alaska.

Your telegram Wickersham received. On invitations national.

Diary 27, 1916
July 29

Republican Committee. Delegate Wickersham has gone New York to attend notification President Hughes on Monday. Probably return Wednesday.

George a. Jeffery.

Secretary.

Wood approved that deception & suggested that I could answer finally after my talk with Wilcox in New York.

The joke now is on Shackleford, Russell & Thane. They are nominating a “Big Interest” legislative ticket - it is a heavy load & they want to hitch me in the harness to help pull the load home! But I’ll not do it.

It is an insult from Ed. Russell to ask me to telephone surrender to George Irving! Let “em sweat!

Diary 27, 1916
July 30

Debbie & I out automobile riding with Mr. & Mrs.

Diary 27, 1916
July 31

Over to New York on morning train to attend Notification of nomination of Chas. E. Hughes for President.

Left Wash, on 9 oclock N.Y. train special car filled with Congressmen. Arrived New York 1.57 - 2 oclock & I & others went to the McAlpin. The notification was held in the Carnegie Hall - a large theater or hall on – I think 7th Ave. & 57th St. I had a fine seat on the stage very near to where Governor Hughes stood to deliver his speech of acceptance. It was a strong speech well delivered & seemed entirely satisfactory to the thousands which [Ticket to above event – Section E Row 2 Seat 6]

Diary 27, 1916
August 2

-30th-

-30th –

When I arrived here from New York I took up the matter of answering Ed. Russell’s demands that I surrender to Shackleford on the matter of allowing Murane, his Nat. Committeeeman to name the appointments in Alaska in case Hughes is elected.

I prepared the following telegram, submitted it to Mr. Woods, of Iowa, the Ch. of the Rep. Cong. Com. who approved it after which I telegraphed it to Russell. It is as follows:


Telegram received from you and Messrs. Thane and Coppernoll advising me to submit to the demands.
crowded the great hall. Senator Harding of Ohio made the notifying address - Roosevelt & his wife occupied a box. Gov. Whitman of N.Y. & crowds of men of national reputation surrounded the Speaker. It was an occasion of historic importance & one I appreciated. He held a reception at the Astor after the acceptance & throngs went there to greet him - I among them.

Aug 1st
Spent the forenoon at Nat. Rep. Hd. quarters trying to get a chance to consult with Chairman Wilcox about Alaskan & politics. Senator Dixon, of Mont, had a long talk with Mr. Hughes in which he presented the matter for me - Came home on 3:30 afternoon Cong. Limited.

Diary 27, 1916
August 2

of the Shackleford organization and surrender the power and rights of the people of Alaska in relation to the appointments to Alaskan offices in case governor Hughes is elected President, in consideration that Mr. Shackleford allow his Committee of Four from the Seward convention and his follows in the Republican Divisional Convention at Juneau to endorse me for Delegate. My letter of March thirtieth addressed to the Delegates at the Republican Territorial Convention at Seward is my final word on that subject. I will not barter away the smallest right or power of the people of Alaska, or my own right and duty as their representative, to the Murane, George Irving, or Shackleford for their endorsement or support, or that of their blind followers.

Diary 27, 1916
August 2

I decline to accept any nomination from Shacklefords unauthorized committee of Four from the Seward convention or to approve that plank in its platform establishing boss rule in Alaska. That plank will be repudiated by the Republican National administration and the Senate will refuse to confirm anyone appointed to Alaskan office who approves it.

I shall support Hughes and Fairbanks and their National Platform and be a candidate for Delegate to Congress from Alaska on the petition of her citizens free from corrupt boss rule, and I shall be glad to have the endorsement of the Juneau convention on that basis. If I am defeated on this platform I shall at least have preserved my own self respect.

James Wickersham

Alaskan mail today brings me many discouraging reports, but since I must march along to the election of Nov. 7, without exhibiting any fear of results I continue to grin and fight as usual. It seems now as if O.P. Hubbard, of Valdes, is to be offered the Delegate nomination by the Gilmore-Shackleford organization. He has long been one of my supporters & the idea is, of course, to weaken me as much as possible, for they have no hope of electing him. They will not now waste their votes on him, but use him as a shield behind which to vote for Sulzer.


[clipping]

WICKERSHAM TO RUN INDEPENDENT AS REPUBLICAN Delegate Refuses Nomination at Hands of Convention Committee. FIGHT OVER PATRONAGE. Incumbent Refuses to Allow ‘Bosses’
to Dictate Appointments – Stands
For Hughes and Fairbanks.
By ASHMUN BROWN.

Special to the Post-Intelligencer.
WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.-On his return today from
New York, where he has been in consultation with
the Republican national committee, Delegate
James Wickersham, of Alaska, sent a long
telegram to Edward C. Russell at Juneau,
repudiating the patronage plank on the Republican
territorial platform adopted at the Seward
convention at the hands of the committee of four to
which the convention delegated the power to
choose a nominee for delegate.

Indorsements Were Required.
The plank declared in favor of making divisional
federal appointments dependent on the joint
indorsement of the Republican committee for the
division, and the national committeeman and all
other federal appointments in the territory on the
indorsement of the national committeeman, who is
C.D. Murane.

Nominations for delegate in Alaska, whether
endorsed by convention or otherwise, must be by
convention or otherwise, must be by petition. The
Wickersham petition is now being circulated,
Wickersham running as a Republican.

Repudiates “Boss Rule”
“I will not barter away the smallest right or power of
the people of Alaska,” says Wickersham in his
telegram, “nor my own right and duty as their
representative to Murane, George Irving or
Shackleford for their indorsement or support, or
that of their blind followers. I decline to accept any
nomination from Shackleford’s unauthorized
committee of four from the Seward convention or to
approve that plank in its platform establishing boss
rule in Alaska. That plank will be repudiated by the
Republican national administration, and the senate
will refuse to confirm any one appointed to Alaskan
office who approves it. I shall support Hughes and
Fairbanks and their national platform and shall be a
candidate for delegate to congress form Alaska on
the petition of her citizens free from corrupt boss
rule and I shall be glad to have the indorsement of
the Juneau convention on that basis.”

Diary 27, 1916
August 4-6
-4th –
Busy preparing speech on Transportation in
Alaska.
Also sending out printed matter to political
supporters in Alaska, also copies of my telegram to
Ed. Russell in letters to my friends.

-5th –
Same as yesterday.

-6th –
Darrell is down to see us - he is soon to go on a
cruise - he is Ex. officer on “Alabama,” and the ship
is to take out the naval militia from Charleston, S.C.
for trip to Newport etc.
Have about finished my transportation Speech -
am now polishing it up, correcting figures etc. &
hope to get in the Record this week.

Diary 27, 1916
August 7-10
-7th –
Repeated my telegram of Aug. 2. To Ed Russell, to
Valentine for use before the Juneau Div. Con. If he
thinks it wise - the Con. meets in Juneau on 9th.
Long hot days work in office.

-8th –
Busy finishing up my speech on “Transportation
conditions in Alaska.”

-9th –
Same as yesterday.

-10th –
My speech on “Alaska Trade & Commerce
Transportation Rates,” is ready for the Record. Mr.
J. H. King, of Juneau is here today in an effort to
secure the passage of my bill, H.R. 10757, a Bill to
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<td>August 10-11</td>
<td>authorize Juneau to issue school bonds in the sum of $75,000. He brought letters from Gov Strong to Senators Pittman &amp; Nelson &amp; I took him over &amp; introduced him to them. Pittman introduced H.R. 10757, as a Senate bill, S. 6839, &amp; he and Nelson promise to put it through. We interviewed Judge Watkins, of La. acting Chairman of House Committee on Ter. &amp; he called a meeting of the Com. for tomorrow.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 12-13</td>
<td>Another hearing today before the Committee on Ter. on my Bill H. S. 10757, to authorize Juneau, Alaska, to issue school bonds in the sum of $75,000. Mr. J. H. King, representing the town of Juneau, appeared before Com. &amp; I got the scattered members of the Com. to sign a favorable report on the bill today. King expressed the greatest satisfaction at the speed &amp; success of our efforts &amp; went off home satisfied. Pittman has introduced the bill in the Senate &amp; promises to get it favorably reported &amp; passed. Have spent the day (Sunday) in the office preparing an &quot;Address to the people of Alaska,&quot; announcing my candidacy for Delegate &amp; giving some of the correspondence, etc. in re the Seward Convention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 14-16</td>
<td>Am hurrying to get away for the West. Will start about Saturday. Sending out printed speeches &amp; closing up my correspondence. Prepared my &quot;Address to the People of Alaska,&quot; but will probably not have it printed before I reach the coast.</td>
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| August 17-18 | My Speech on Transportation Rates in Alaska is in the Record this morning, and I have ordered 10,000 copies from the Public Printer (at a cost to me of $100.88) for distribution in Alaska. Am busy preparing to go west. Will fix the date of my departure tomorrow after I interview Judge Alexander about his activities with the Alaska fishery bill. I can't go away and leave that without an agreement that nothing will be done in my absence. A favorable Report has been made & filed on my bill allowing Juneau to bond in the sum of $75,000. to build a new schoolhouse. Rushing around today trying to get my affairs straightened up so I can go to Alaska. I interviewed Judge Alexander, Chairman of the Com. on Merchant Marine & Fisheries & asked him what he intended to do with our Alaska Fishery bills - he said he had a final copy prepared & would introduce it today and recommend its passage by favorable Report in 3 or 4 days. He agreed that he would not attempt to pass it this session - that I need not wait on that account, etc. I will be interested to see it as printed tomorrow - he said I would approve it! So it must be very different from his original bill. Have written letters to Senators Cummins,
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| 18-19 Aug  | LaFollette, Lewis, Newlands, & to Rep. Adamson & Esch. calling their special attention to my statement in the Record of the 16th re Transportation and begging each of them to read it and to help Alaska to get reduction of her transportation burdens! Also called it specially to the attention of Judge Alexander, Ch. Merchant Marine and Fisheries Com. - who promised to Recd and consider it fairly - but he won't!  
  My address to the People of Alaska containing my platform, Statement etc. is printed & ready to forward to my friends in Alaska. It is O.K.  
  Judge Alexander reintroduced his fishery bill yesterday and it is now H.R. 17499, and not in any way improved. It is the same old menace, and I must oppose it to the last. He told me he intended to favorably Report it in a day or two. |
| 19 Aug     | It looks as if he had introduced it either to support the Administration & to take off their shoulders the curse or because he intends to put through a robbery of Alaska fisheries regardless of our rights. I think it is so bad that I can beat it on a fight.  
  From Alaska papers just in I find the Juneau Divisional Convention did not endorse me, but declined to do so. Shackleford was in full command & nominated Heckman the Fish Trust Manager for Senator.  
  Received a telegram from Maltby saying: Valentine declines to act. Rustgard has assumed charge. Send him literature and something to help pay expenses!  
  They all think I'm rich! |
| 21-22 Aug  | Am about ready to go west. I bought my ticket & got Pullman reservation over the Penn. Ry. via Chicago & thence over the N.P. Ry to Seattle, for tomorrow evening at 8:15. Am done with correspondence & leave little behind.  
  My secretary, Geo. A. Jeffery will remain in charge & he and Morrison will continue the work on Alaskan bibliography during the summer.  
  The Juneau School bond bill was passed by the Senate yesterday & Judge Watkins, Ch. House Com. on Ter. promises me it shall pass the House also. Left Washington at 6:15 for Alaska - 110° hot in the dining car.  
  MY 59TH BIRTHDAY - St Paul this morning until 11 oclock. Fargo Cool & good weather. |
| 23-24 Aug  | This morning in Ohio and cloudy and cold. I had to put on warmer clothes. Mrs. Isette Brown, widow of W. Va. congressman is on this train going to Seattle with her baby and a nurse. In Chicago for 3 hours & then over the Burlington.  
  MY 59TH BIRTHDAY - St Paul this morning until 11 oclock. Fargo Cool & good weather. |

### Diary of James Wickersham

#### July 23, 1916 through March 4, 1917
**Diary 27, 1916**  
**August 27-28**

27th –  
Came in to Seattle last evening at 8:30 behind time - & am at the Frye Hotel. Many of my friends have come in today to see me - & I have been able to talk politics with some from every part of the Territory. The conditions do not seem bad, but they need my active attention. Am tired out by traveling & have remained near the hotel all day.  

28th –  
Called on J.E. Chilberg this forenoon - he is inclined to support my candidacy & when I suggested that I would support Judge Lomen

**Diary 27, 1916**  
**August 28**

of Nome for Dist. Judge there -both he and Larson his Secretary were interested - they will get off letters on the Nome boat on Wednesday to Jafet Lindeberg & others urging them to support me. Lunch at the Rainier Club with Larson. This afternoon a number of Alaskans called to talk politics. W. J. Rowe, of Homer, who will go there by Oct. 1st. will support me vigorously. Jim Stevens, Jack Leedy. (Rex Beach’s partner) Barney Goss, & a lot of others called. Things look better in a political way, but I am convinced that I have a hard fight before me.

**Diary 27, 1916**  
**August 29-30**

29th –  
Mother & Jen came in today & spend most of the day with me - then went back home.  
Long talk with Wm Blackmon, U.S. Board of Conciliation etc. Dept. of Labor - he brought two of the head men of the Labor Union - Longshoreman’s Union etc. They are considering the matter of aiding me in Alaska.  

30th -  
"Victoria", SS, went to Nome this morning. Sent a lot of mail to my political friends.  
May Taylor - my sister - went enroute to Iditarod.  
Busy working in politics - Grigsby Democratic candidate for

**August 30-31**

Atty Genl. is here, going to Juneau & S.E. Alaska.  

31st-  
Lunch today with Scott Bone Ed. of Seattle P-I, & Wm Parry - long talk yesterday with Billy Blackmon & the officers of the Unions, about conditions in Alaska. They seem friendly & may make a statement in my support.  
Wrote to Debbie  
Sent following telegram  

*Seattle, Wash. Aug 31, 1916*  
John W. Frame, Anchorage, Alaska.  
Put some red pepper in attacking our Juneau enemies and send two hundred copies each week to John Rustgard, Juneau, and fifty copies to Forest J. Hunt, Ketchikan.  
I am going north

**Diary 27, 1916**  
**August 31- September 1**

31  
Sunday and will begin at Ketchikan and speak at every town to anchorage.  
James Wickersham.  

September 1st  
The P-I had the following Editorial & personal item today:

[clipping]  
**ALASKA AND WICKERSHAM.**  
Alaska appears to have the usual factionalism in its politics this campaign year. As to the merits of the rivalry and the excuse, if any, for a row over patronage the Post-Intelligencer does not know or care. It does know, however, that Alaska is mighty well represented in congress by Delegate James Wickersham and that, in this period of development and construction, his services are needed at Washington more than ever before. To lose his services at this juncture would be a serious mistake, The territory cannot afford it. He is an encyclopedia of Alaskan information. He knows the northland and its needs from A to Z. Few other Alaskans are so well informed and they lack the knowledge of congress and the departments which his four terms as delegate have given him. He was working for a government railroad while others were dreaming and hoping, and to his persistent,
tenacious and intelligent effort, more than to any other one, agency or medium, is due the consummation of the splendid project. All workers for Alaska freely pay tribute to his magnificent service. Much more is yet to be done for the territory, and any thought of relieving Judge Wickersham is manifestly lacking in wisdom. Alaska needs him and will continue to need him, and all factions, in view of what he has done and is able to do, should unite and with one voice return him to Congress. It is the thing to do and it ought to be done. Alaska should see it and do it.

Diary 27, 1916
September 1

[clipping]

DELEGATE TO ADDRESS
THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.
[portrait of Wickersham]
Judge James Wickersham
Delegate to Congress From Alaska.
WICKERSHAM TO
SPEAK ON ALASKA
Delegate, En Route Home,
Will Address Commercial
Club Saturday Noon.
IN CONGRESS SINCE 1908.
Has Seen Congressional Indifference
to Territory Change to
Admiration.

Judge James Wickersham, delegate in congress from Alaska, will address the Seattle Commercial Club at luncheon at noon Saturday. Judge Wickersham is on his way home to Fairbanks from the national capital. He pur-

Diary 27, 1916
September 2

poses sailing Sunday, and the fact that he had a day or two to spend in Seattle made it possible for him to accept the cordial invitation of the Commercial Club to speak on the Alaska railroad Club to speak on the Alaska railroad and on the problems of the Northland now before congress. Will H. Parry, the Seattle member of the federal trade commission, who in 1914 assisted in the work at Washington of securing the passage of the

Alaska railroad bill, also will be present. Wins Recognition for Northland.

Judge Wickersham has served in congress since 1908. Prior to his election to congress he served as judge of the United States district court for two terms.

It is doubtful if there is another man in public life so well informed on Alaskan affairs or who has so much interesting data at his fingers’ ends as Judge Wickersham. Before congress passed the railroad bill it was necessary to carry on a campaign of education to inform the country of the richness of the great empire in the North. Judge Wickersham saw the prejudice and the lack of understanding give way to a friendly interest and then to amazement at the richness of the far-off territory. During the last two or three years, Alaska has been the most talked-of and interesting of Uncle Sam's possessions.

Is Authority on Alaska.
In the fight to secure the passage of the railroad bill Judge Wickersham took a leading part. Leaders in both houses of congress turned to him for facts and figures, and he was considered the best authority on Alaska in the country.

Judge Wickersham has a library of Alaska books unequaled anywhere in the world. He has searched everywhere for books on Alaska, and he has them in many languages. It has been a hobby which he has pursued for years, and the result has been that he has collected an amazing number of books, which tell the story of Alaska since civilized man first saw it. In Washington whenever a senator or representative wants to know something about Alaska he asks Judge Wickersham or delves into the delegate’s library.

Was taken sick with a cold this evening and went to bed at 3 in the afternoon & having a bad night of it.

Diary 27, 1916
Sept. 2.

Was pretty sick last night but am better today - There are many Alaskans coming through Seattle
& I am doing as well - or better - here than if I were in some of the Alaskan towns. My friend Billy Blackmon, U.S. Bd. of Conciliation, here settling Longshoreman’s Strike is trying to get the Unions to endorse my campaign in Alaska. My boat will not go north till Tuesday - Had a long talk with Mr. Kalish, Pres of Humboldt SS. Co, about transportation conditions in Alaska - he is assisting me with secret information - copies of papers etc. for use before the Interstate Com. Com. etc. Spoke 10 minutes before the Com. Club, today on the attempt being made in Seattle to inject a political aspect into the Alaska Rd. situation - denounced it. Major Ballaine, who is the guilty party, sat across the table from me & cheered my sentiments. Several of my friends from Petersburg, Alaska, are here & strongly invite me to stop there & talk. There seems to be a general idea among Alaskans that Sulzer is making a hard contest for me to meet!

Diary 27, 1916  
September 2

The P-I, this morning says, editorially:

[clipping]

FIRST AID TO ALASKA.

Delegate Wickersham, in his interesting address before the Com- Club, opportuneely traced the history of Alaska development and, withholding no credit from any quarter where it properly belongs, bestowed the due meed of credit for substantial initiative upon creative and constructive statesmanship of days agone that too often passes from memory and escapes recall and recognition. Everybody knows, or should know, how this entire coast section, the united forces of Seattle active in the forefront, pulled together so magnificently for the project of a government-built railroad in Alaska. Everybody understands and appreciates how

Secretary of the Interior Lane promptly gave his powerful assistance to the cause and ultimately enlisted the still more powerful, and needed, aid of President Wilson. Everybody knows, too, and takes pride in the fact, that, for once, the Washington delegation in congress, in cooperation with Delegate Wickersham - or two senators and five representatives each and all honorably included - worked unselfishly in perfect unison and harmony toward the laudable, common end of helping Alaska. All this is a fine chapter of Alaska, Seattle and Washington (state and capital city) history, and the glory is certainly ample to go around. To be sure, a scheming townsite promoter of Seward, John E. Ballaine, for the purposes of an iniquitous campaign, is today engaged in a despicable attempt to smear the chapter and falsify his way into congress with the preposterous bought-and-paid-for claim that he did it all, and but for him Alaska will yet be gobbled up, bag and baggage, by piratical Guggenheims and a plundering ilk, but let this brazen candidate and his bogus pretensions pass. Steilacoom is befuddled with similar hallucinations. Returning to Judge Wickersham’s address and the credit to whom credit is due: He calls timely, if belated, attention to the fact that William Howard Taft, president of the United States, took the first important step toward developing Alaska when he recommended to congress, in a message, that a trunk line railroad be built by the government into the interior; and that subsequently he secured an appropriation and appointed a commission of army officers which conducted exhaustive surveys and made a report which formed the basis of final congressional action.

Diary 27, 1916  
September 3

Thus it was, as a matter of fact, that groundwork for Alaska development was substantially laid before the present administration came into power, and with the help of Republicans in congress,
brought the great railroad project to consummation. There is honest credit enough to go around and Delegate Wickersham keeps history straight by seeing to it that the helpfulness of the far-sighted preceding administration is not overlooked.

[clipping]

ALASKA RAILROAD
NOT PARTY ISSUE
So Declares Judge James
Wickersham in Commer-
cial Club Address.
PARTIES SHARE HONOR,
Delegate From North Says He Will
Vote for Charles Evan
Hughes.

“The Alaska railroad is a nonpartisan business proposition. Both the republican and Democratic parties are pledged to carry on the project and both are in honor bound to see it to a successful finish.”

This was the statement of Judge James Wickersham, delegate in congress from Alaska, at the Commercial Club yesterday.

At the speaker’s table with Judge Wickersham was Will H. Parry, Seattle’s member of the federal trade commission, who in 1914, as a member of the Alaska bureau of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, did important work at Washington in securing the passage of the railroad bill.

William F. Eckart, president of the Commercial Club, was chairman of the meeting and introduced Judge Wickersham.

“I know that you people here in Seattle have a deep interest in Alaska and in the railroad now building,” said Judge Wickersham. “Our interests are closely related. What benefits Alaska necessarily benefits Seattle and we share to some extent in the benefits of your increasing importance. You realize as well as I that nothing has been done so far half so important to the development of Alaska as the building of the railroad.

September 3-5 of the house and senate, and on May 24 I obtained from Secretary Lane a letter strongly indorsing the railroad project. After the hearings had been finished, President Wilson, on December 6, 1913, announced that he was for the measure.

Both Parties Responsible.

“Those of you who are interested might take the message of President Taft and the message of President Wilson and compare them. You would find a striking similarity of language and of thought.

“As I said before, the Alaska railroad was nonpartisan then and it is nonpartisan now. The plan originated with a Republican administration. The bill was passed by a Democratic administration. Both parties are in honor bound to see the project was carried out.

“I say this because, whoever tries to make a partisan matter of it seeks to destroy it. It is just as certain that it will go forward if Hughes is elected as it is if Wilson is elected. There is no party politics in the question.

“There may be persons who don’t want the road built, but it is neither Hughes nor Mr. Wilson. If certain transportation companies are not in favor of building the road, it will be well to watch them, but as there is no reason to believe that either political party will oppose the Alaska railroad, the question has no business being mixed with politics.”

Labor Day - Barnum & Bailey’s Circus - nothing doing.

Wm Blackmon is declaring my endorsement by the Unions - Labor Unions - of Seattle & State of Washington - & will have their endorsement printed & sent to me at Juneau. Went with John Schram to see Clark Davis! Ry plans, coal prospects etc. Met Davis, Dick Kinnear & others interested. There are many Alaskans here. Sent Dan Sutherland a telegram to go to Nome for me - also to Rustgard to meet me in Ketchikan. Have my ticket & leave on the “Admiral Watson” tonight.
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<tr>
<td>September 7-8</td>
<td>Talking politics &amp; getting acquainted. Queen Charlotte's Sound.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 9-11</td>
<td>Around Ketchikan today talking to business men &amp; fishermen. My first campaign speech tonight at the Red Men's Hall, good audience and am assured of the support of the laboring fishermen &amp; greater number of citizens than I expected. Raining - no boat soon to the northward. We left Ketchikan last night at 9 oclock on the small gasoline boat &quot;Harry&quot; &amp; reached Wrangell this morning (Monday 11th) at 9. a.m. Spent the day yesterday (Sunday): with my friends in Ketchikan - etc.</td>
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<td>September 12-13</td>
<td>Waiting for boat to Juneau. Went down to Scow Bay to call on residents &amp; see floating cold storage plant in the old sailing ship &quot;Glory of the Seas.&quot; Have many friends at Scow Bay and conditions better at Petersburg than I expected. (Paid Miller, Ed. of Petersburg Report &amp; 50. for printing etc. (also paid Stanhope of Wrangell Sentinel the same amount). Have done well to remain here a day or two but I am getting anxious to push on. Had dinner at Restaurant last night with Rustgard, Miller, Ed. of Petersburg Report, Mayor Messrs. Allen</td>
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<td>September 14-15</td>
<td>John Grant, who is betting on me. At noon we left Wrangell on a gasoline boat &quot;Karen.&quot; Capt. Johansen, and ran through Dry Pass Straits to Petersburg - 3 hours. Put up at Wester's hotel, and had dinner with Mr. &amp; Mrs. Miller, the Editor of the Petersburg Report. At 8:30 had a fine audience in the Sons of Norway Hall - the largest meeting ever held in Petersburg - Rustgard spoke 15 min. &amp; then I talked for more than an hour - a good meeting. I am persuaded that Ketchikan, Wrangell &amp; Petersburg will each give me a good majority vote. Visiting around town today and talking with the people. Telegrams say Maine went Republican yesterday - Good - and that Poindexter beat Humphrey for Senate in the State of Washington - Better! Dinner tonight with Mr. &amp; Mrs. Allen.</td>
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| September 15-16 | Had a fine meeting tonight at Reedmen's Hall - Rustgard spoke 15 minutes & I an hour & a half - We then had a banquet, dance - cards etc. It was a fine audience & this town seems friendly and promises to give me a good vote. -Tuesday 12- Spent the forenoon in Wrangell visiting around the town - While here I have been at the Hotel kept by
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<td>September 16</td>
<td>saw on Frederick Sound - the Devils Thumb &amp; others mountains are free of clouds - its fine. Mr. Ward J. Bower, of the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, is on board &amp; we have discussed the Alaska fisheries bill etc. at length. The new Russian Bishop of Alaska is on board enroute to Sitka. 16th. Arrived in Juneau this morning at 2. a.m. and put up at the Alaska Hotel – Tired. Today I had a long talk with Ed. Russell who gave me a story of how it happened at Seward etc. - a story of &quot;bull con.&quot; Also went to see Valentine &amp; talked him into a friendly state of mind. Valentine is cranky but has always been my friend - after I talk him out of his crank. Called on Governor Strong &amp; paid my respects - met Fred &amp; Phil Bradley of the Treadwell mines there - they were pleasant but not enthusiastic. Invited to dinner at Gov. Strongs - also present Bishop Rowe &amp; wife, and a group of his Episcopal clergy - all seemed friendly &amp; we had a fine &quot;old sourdough&quot; meal and visit. Mrs. Strong is a fine hostess! -17th – With Valentine, Rustgard and Martin Olson of Douglas much today arranging a political organization - Find many friends and supporters - but much hard work must be done in this locality - it is now pretty hard against me! -18th-. Received a letter from “Billie” Blackmon today (from Seattle) sending me a strong endorsement by the Union Labor Organizations of State of Washington - an offset to Sulzer’s endorsement signed by the head official of Labor Unions in Wash, and is a strong approval of my work in Washington as the Delegate from Alaska. They also sent me 2500 printed copies! and paid for them! However it is my fear that it will be best to have them distributed secretly! Carefully, anyway, so as not to appear too anxious. Have been over to Douglas and Treadwell - was well received and my friends there will undoubtedly give me a good vote - they say a fair majority! Rainy.</td>
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<td>September 19-20</td>
<td>19th – Am to speak in Juneau on Friday evening &amp; Douglas on Saturday - Went over to Douglas this evening and had dinner with Mr. &amp; Mrs. Henry Brie. Also present were Mr. &amp; Mrs. Fred Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bradley, Dr. &amp; Mrs. Ellis &amp; Mrs. Howard – Mrs. Phils mother. A good dinner, visiting &amp; talking today. Sent long telegram to Dan Sutherland, Fairbanks, tonight. -20th- 2500 circular letters from the Trades Union of Wash. State, endorsing my candidacy in Alaska reached me today. They will be used in answer to Sulzer’s letter from his Western Fed. of M. of Sulzer!</td>
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<td>September 20</td>
<td>[letter] Washington State Federation of Labor Everett, Wash. Sept. 9th, 1916 Trade Unionists of Alaska, Greeting: Ordinarily we would not think of making any suggestions to you concerning political candidacies in your Territory, but in present situation we feel justified in doing so. The interests of labor in the entire northwestern group of states, and particularly in Washington, is closely allied with the interest of labor in Alaska. We have watched with growing concern the efforts of large corporate aggregations to tighten their hold upon the wealth of your country and have watched the splendid</td>
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fight waged in Congress by your Delegate, Mr. Wickersham.

It is because we believe Mr. Wickersham is fighting in Congress against the exploitation of labor and the great natural wealth of Alaska by powerful private interest, that we are taking the liberty of urging our fellow unionists in Alaska to rally to his support in his campaign for reelection.

Knowing that you will accept this communication in the spirit in which it is written and assuring you the continued co-operation and good will of your fellow trade unionists, we beg leave to remain,

Fraternally Yours,

E.P. Marsh
President Washington State Federation of Labor
Chas. R. Case
Chairman Legislative Committee, Seattle Central Labor Council.

J.G. Brown
President International Shingle Weavers’ Union of America.

William Short
Sec.-Treas. Dist. No. 10, United Mine Workers of America.

Visiting and talking politics. Dinner tonight with John Rustgard – also present Valentine, Le Fevre, O’Connor, Maltby – and a well cooked and agreeable dinner it was too.

Diary 27, 1916
September 21-22

21
Working politics - with Valentine visited business houses - saloons etc. all day - Dinner with Mr. & Mrs. Ed. Russell.

-22nd -
Worked all forenoon on notes etc for my Coliseum speech tonight.

12 o'clock - Speech tonight was a success. The Coliseum is the largest hall in Juneau - seats 900, and proprietor who attended the doors tells me more than 200 were turned away. Valentine, Mayor Stewart & ex Gov. Brady were on the stage with me. The audience of men and women was attentive and fully responsive – Success!
welcomed the delegate to the city.  

Not to Be Feared  
Judge Wickersham began by stating that some residents of Juneau seemed to fear that he was about to blow off the top of Mt. Juneau and raise cain Generally, but assured his hearers that he was in a very peaceful mood and did not intend to attack any one.  

Speaking more seriously, the judge said that he considered it a great honor to represent Alaska, which he had done for eight years, and for a vast empire of nearly 600,000 square miles, one-fifth the size of the United States, and with the great rivers and resources than any other previous territory.  

Makes a Report  
"You have a right to know what your 

Diary 27, 1916  
September 23  

-23" –  
Made a talk today to the Women’s Club in the town hall - crowded - and got away fairly - talked on libraries, schools, home, etc. The women seemed pleased, - and I was also -it was fairly a success. Tonight went over to Douglas - met at the wharf by the Mayor & brassband - parade to front street - and the big saloon - then to Lyric theater - good crowd - and made a bum speech -  
My reception was satisfactory and am promised a good majority in Douglas and Treadwell - but my speech was a failure. Russell, of the Dispatch - today promised to support me boldly with his paper - good!  

Diary 27, 1916  
September 24  

[clipping]  
{Juneau Dispatch, Sunday, Sept 24}  
EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENT  
The Daily Alaska Dispatch will from this date to November 7 devote all its editorial energy toward the re-election of James Wickersham as delegate to Congress. The Dispatch has supported James Wickersham as a non-partisan candidate for 8 years. The Dispatch has done this because it believed James W- came nearest to representing the people of Alaska as a whole than any other candidate before the voters. The Dispatch now believes this to be true at the coming November election. The speech of James Wickersham delivered in Juneau on Friday evening was constructive. It was an honest report to the people of Alaska of what he had accomplished and what he expected to accomplish as the representative of all the people of Alaska in the halls of congress. It was not a speech bristling with personalities, threats, honeyed words and denouncing terms. It was not one of sectionalism. It was not one seeking support of any particular faction. In making the announcement the Dispatch does not question the sincerity of any good man or woman who aspire to this high honor.  

[clipping]  
WICKERHSAM TAKES ISLAND BY STORM  
Island People Meet Delegate at Ferry Dock With Band  
LYRIC THEATRE IS CROWDED  
Wickersham Appeals to Gastineau Channel to Support His Efforts to Secure Best Legislation.  
James Wickersham, candidate for re-election to congress, took Douglas Island by storm last night. At the city dock on his arrival on the 8 o’clock ferry was the Douglas band, Mayor O’Connor and other dignitaries and the delegate was escorted to the Lyric theater, which building was packed to the doors by the men and women of the Island. James Wickersham was introduced by Mayor O’Connor. His Honor in introducing the speaker declared he was here to welcome Wickersham for the good work he had done for the territory. “I have been on the platform with Judge Wickersham before” continued the Mayor, “and I received a good
### October 24, 1916

**WICKERSHAM MAKES ADDRESS BEFORE WOMEN**

Says Fairbanks Has Nucleus of University

Urge Women to Work for Higher Education Facilities in Territory

“All we need to do now is to secure an appropriation from the territorial legislature for building and for the hiring of teachers, etc. and a continuing and rotating fund of $50,000 will be available every year thereafter for the maintenance of the first territorial university in Alaska.”

In these words Delegate Wickersham speaking to the Women’s Club in the city hall yesterday afternoon, explained the possibilities for women to do work for the advancement of the territory.

“The territorial treasurer informs me that we have $500,000 clear in the treasury now and that there is a possibility of another $500,000 within the next year. This means that we are going to be able to do things for ourselves, that’s what you good women ought to take an interest in. You ought to know the school laws and how money is obtained for the support of the schools and for the building of libraries.

“There are some women who think it is not refined – “not quite nice” - to vote. But you must. It is your duty to aid the civilizing influences in the territory. Study the situation, pick out the best man without regard to the party label on his back and go to the polls and vote for him.

In regard to the agricultural experiment station already maintained at Fairbanks with 160 acres cleared and bearing hay, oats, barley, wheat, vegetables, berries and flowers, Judge Wickersham explained that it belongs to the territory and will be perpetually maintained by the United States government, and forms the nucleus of the proposed university. On the same site will be a school of mining-one of the ten in the United States- and here the delegate also hopes to have an extensive library of Alaskan literature and urged the women of Juneau to make an effort to also have such a collection in their city.

“In Sitka-the old capital- hundreds of books and papers of historical value are going to ruin through neglect. Mildew and rain are destroying wonderful old Russian volumes and documents. This civic club of Juneau could not do a better work than to appoint a committee to see that those invaluable books are not lost through neglect. You would do yourselves and the territory and your descendants a great good, if you will do this.

Judge Wickersham devoted a very interesting section of his talk to his own Alaska library in Washington, D.C.- a library in which he is endeavoring to gather everything that has been written on Alaska. “I have spent many thousands of dollars in gathering these books,” said the judge, “and there are 10,000 titles. For three or four years I have been engaged in preparing a bibliography of Alaskan literature and this will be printed.

“One of the first books which we have dealing with Alaska was printed in 1728 and is a history of China, detailing discoveries along the coast of Kamchatka. The Russians have written almost a library about Alaska. The Germans have contributed, and the French once had a fleet of vessels at Lituya Bay where they planned to establish the Port of France for the fur-traders of the Pacific coast, and they have written many volumes on Alaska.

“About 1820 when the call came in to Russia for a priest to go to Alaska, the man who was later archbishop of the Russian Catholic church, and next to the Czar the head of that church, came. He wrote many books. He visited at Sitka and here at Auk village and wrote a book on ‘the Languages of the Aleuts.’ He was the truly great man of Alaska in church work, and a great writer.

“The Presbyterian church also sent out missionaries who wrote of Alaska, and the
Episcopal teachers translated the service and various parts of the Bible into the language of the natives of the Yukon. These Missionaries have done a wonderful work out along the coast.”

The speaker cited several instances where the natives had been taught to read and write was of service in administering justice. One case, in which Fred Hardy was being tried at Unalaska for the murder of some men, was completely decided when an old, dirty and unintelligent looking Eskimo was able to produce a diary which he had kept, settling the date upon which a certain man had been at his place, thus securing conviction of the murderer.

Judge Wickersham stated that he secured copies of all these missionaries’ works on Alaska and that he also has three speeches made by Secretary of State Wm. H. Seward, one at Sitka in 1869, one at Victoria and one at Salem, Oregon, all regarding Alaska, the existence of which, in print, had been unknown even to the famous statesman’s own son.

In conclusion the delegate urged again the importance of preserving the old books at Sitka and said:

“We are going to have a great university at Fairbanks. And we hope you will do the same here.”

Following Judge Wickersham’s speech Mrs. L.M. Lewis gave a most interesting talk on “The Progress of Women” and an invitation was extended by the president of the club, Mrs. Kaser, to the numerous visitors present, to join the club.

My efforts to organize my political forces – friends & foes alike have been entirely successful. Valentine is enthusiastic, the Dispatch has returned to my support with greater energy than ever before! My defiance to the Shackleford crowd & the threat in my “announcement” to prevent confirmation of their appointees to office -bears fruit. Juneau is in better shape than I expected to get it and I am sanguine of carrying the 1st Div. in Nov. My friends are happy & my organization is stronger than ever.

Valentine has just given me a new fountain pen! Rainy Sunday: Albert Johnson, M.C. from Hoquiam, Wash, in Juneau today - will go to Cordova on Alameda this afternoon - Am much pleased at the condition in which I have left my political organization in Juneau. When I came Valentine was almost unfriendly - I have him tonight enthusiastic and active in my behalf - the head of my organization - my political manager! The Dispatch has not given me any mention or support since the Seward Convention - this morning it hoisted my flag at its editorial masthead and publicly announces its determination to fight my battle till election day!

At Sea between Icy Strait & Cordova. Heavy roll & I am seasick in my eyes!

Reached Cordova at 9. a.m. and went up town to visit friends while the boat unloads freight - will be here all day. Find my “fences” here in good order, “horse high, bull strong and pig tight.” - so my friends tell me. Visited around town - Harry Steel & his paper “Cordova Times” for me strong. - Geo. Dooley, candidate for Ter. Senate is for me with his whole ticket. Sulzer was here but did not speak & went westward -probably southward - for he will return after I go and make a “follow up” campaign.

Alameda still at Cordova dock. Spent the night at the hotel and visiting my friends talking politics. Yesterday evening the business men held a meeting to talk with Johnson, M.C. from Hoquiam. I attended & we had a pleasant meeting - talked Alaskan necessities. Am going to try & get combination between Frame & Dooley - they are both candidates, Frame on the Progressive Dem. & Dooley on Rep. ticket, for Senator - Ronan is the straight Dem. & may beat them on as count of division - Can I get one to withdraw & thus give the
Diary 27, 1916
September 27-28
Alameda sailed for Valdes - reached there in the evening - went up town - visited friends. Dr Boyle Kings, Hubbard, etc. Geo Grigsby Demo, candidate for Atty Genl is here campaigning for Sulzer against me.
-28th-
Alameda lay at wharf Valdes all night - I went to bed at 2 oclock and am back uptown at 9. Beautiful morning, fogs high on the mountain sides, the sun filling the spaces down between - a glorious day in Valdes harbor. Alameda sailed at noon - across Prince William Sound. - a glorious sunny fall day. We are at the LaTouche

Diary 27, 1916
September 28-29
dock tonight unloading freight, Have been over to Dick Gelinneau's cigar stand - talking politics - seem to have a goodly supply of friends here. Met Dr. Nystrom, Dr Smith, the Supt. & many of the men - not bad!
-29th-
Arrived at Seward this morning at 8 oclock. Went up town & called on dozens of my friends. Borgan, Whiltimore, McNeilly, Ray, etc. etc. Ronan is here etc. Am assured by my friends that I will carry Seward by a big majority. Left at 1:30 enroute for Anchorage - Will return here & speak after going to Anchorage.
Mr. Edes, Ch. Alaska Eng. Com. on board boat for Anchorage.

Diary 27, 1916
September 30
-30th-
Arrived at Anchorage this morning at 8 oclock. Met at wharf by Alaska Engineering Commission: Edes, & Mears, who invited Johnson, M.C. from Hoquiam, Wash, & me to go out on the Matanuska line to inspect it & see the country. We spent the greater part of the day on the trip & enjoyed it greatly. Went out some miles beyond the Junction - near to Moose creek - where the Com. has opened a coal mine for their use - returned to town in time to give Johnson an hour before the boat sailed at 5 oclock -upon which he returned to the States.
Am at Anchorage Hotel - shaking hands with friends.

ANCHORAGE DAILY TIMES
AND COOK INLET PIONEER.
ANCHORAGE PUBLISHING CO.
Anchorage, Alaska.
CHAS. E. HERRON, Publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR THE DAILY.
Single Copies...$ .10      Six Months (in advance)...
...$  5.00
One Month...       1.00      One Year (in advance)...
... 10.00
Entered in the Anchorage Postoffice June 5, 1915, as second class matter under the Act of March 3, 1873.
For President-CHARLES EVANS HUGHES.
For Delegate to Congress-JAMES WICKERSHAM.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1916.

ANCHORAGE EXTENDS GREETINGS.
On behalf of this town, the Times wishes to express the most cordial and hearty greetings to the Hon. James Wickersham, delegate to congress from Alaska, who is today the guest of this community. On behalf of this town, The Times wishes to express the appreciation of the people in this community for the splendid efforts the delegate has put forth in behalf of the railway project, so vital to the well-being and prosperity of Anchorage.
The delegate visited Anchorage last year. At that time the railway project was sorely in need of an emergency appropriation, so that construction could be carried on through last winter. The emergency appropriation was passed by the congress, two million dollars becoming available. This appropriation relieved the situation here immensely. The delegate was largely instrumental.
in getting the emergency appropriation through the congress. His promise to the town was fulfilled. He has demonstrated his loyalty to the railway project, in which the people of this entire country are so much concerned, and it would be the height of folly to send an untried, inexperienced man as our representative in the congress, especially while this great development scheme is under construction.

And there is another thing coming up, in which we shall need the delegate’s assistance. We are not authorized to speak for the delegate, but we know he will favor the proposition, because it comprehends the further opening of the resources of Alaska. When the rails are laid to Fairbanks, the interior terminus, we propose to agitate for a branch railway line leading from a point on the main line to the Kuskokwim river. Such a railway line would give transportation to a half dozen good mining camps and would tend to develop a vast area that can be opened in no other way.

Delegate Wickersham is serving his fourth term as Alaska’s sole representative in the halls of congress. His record is an open book. He was elected as the people’s representative, and he has consistently been the people’s representative. The delegate may be opposed by certain alleged political bosses and certain grasping corporations that cannot use him to their interests, but the people are with him and in Alaska the people are independent enough to elect whom they choose.

And they are going to re-elect Delegate Wickersham. Speaking for the entire Cook inlet country, it is safe to assert that the delegate will sweep the region. There will be no politics when it comes to voting for delegate. Just yesterday, one of the leading democrats of the town said that he proposed to vote for Delegate Wickersham, although he would support Grigsby, Price and Cannon, three democratic candidates for office. Many democrats will take a similar view. Hence, it is easy to predict a rousing victory for the delegate in this community.

While of course we are more concerned about the delegate matter, we must not forget that we have another distinguished visitor in Anchorage today, in the person of Congressman Johnson, of the state of Washington, who accompanied the delegate to this point. We have had occasion to follow the record of the Washington delegation in the congress, and we are here to say that in Congressman Johnson Alaska has a loyal friend and advocate. The congressman is a warm supporter of the railway project, and after his visit, when he shall have had an opportunity to see for himself the development that has followed construction work, we are sure he will take even greater interest in our affairs.

This locality seems to be very friendly to my candidacy.

Sunday, but I have met many friends & further extended my acquaintance. Had dinner this evening - my friend Frank Cannon of Knik as my guest.

Recd, following telegram:
Fairbanks, Alaska, Sept. 30, 1916
James Wickersham, Anchorage
The Times straight Republican daily has unqualifiedly endorsed you and hereby offers you its columns and editorial page to do with as you see fit in the interest of your campaign. This unsolicited offer is made because we believe the best interests of the territory demands your return to Washington. Allow me to personally extend my services in your behalf as well as that of the paper I control.

You should carry forth three to one.
Louis Klopsch, editor.
I am informed that both the Times and the Citizen are giving me support, while the News-Miner is supporting McGowan & Sulzer - for $3500. Whisky
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<td>October 3-4</td>
<td>Pioneers - met tonight and I spoke to them for half an hour. It was a pleasant meeting &amp; Sam McNeill presided. Dinner tonight with several business men - called on Alaska Engineering Com. - Edes &amp; Mears. Consulting with friends - calling &amp; general political activities. Bob. Hunter, Frame &amp; other of my friends invited me to have dinner with them at &quot;Skookum&quot; Johnsons restaurant - bunkhouse - roadhouse. &quot;Skookum&quot; is my old time Cleary Creek friend and talked as usual from soup to cigars. He has a big crowd of &quot;guests&quot; &amp; is friendly in a political way.</td>
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<td>October 5</td>
<td>Made my speech at the Union Hall tonight. The &quot;Union&quot; held me up for $80.00 hall rent - that's what one gets for securing the Ry. Appropriations for Union men! John Frame, Ed. of the &quot;49th Star&quot; presided and I talked two hours - it was not a success, for I talked just plain business matters to them - there were no jokes - no fun -no row- &amp; too many people -to go to such a place for entertainment rather than information. I was satisfied with my speech but some of my friends were not! Still I made no accusations, did not flail any one -&amp; made no enemies - got off right!</td>
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| October 6  | Left Anchorage at 2 oclock this morning -after my speech last night - on the small gasoline boat - "Alaska." We reached the south end of Fire Is. but when we tried to get into Turnagain Arm - we found a gale blowing - tide rips - big waves & waters so threatening that we were forced back and returned to Anchorage at 3 oclock this afternoon - where I will wait for the "Mariposa." Intended to go to the upper end of Turnagain arm
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<td>October 7</td>
<td>Diary</td>
<td>Resting quietly at the hotel. The Mariposa will be here tomorrow. The “Labor Union” leader, Charles Peters, (“Paddy the Dane”) is trying to get my friends to put up money for his influence with the Union. I decline to be a party to such transaction – I would not trust him even if he agreed to deliver! Things political here are in good shape. Chas. E. Herron is the owner of the “Times” the leading paper – he is supporting me vigorously – while John Frame, the Ed &amp; owner of the 49th Star is doing likewise. These are the only papers, except the new Labor paper, north of Seward – Frame is erratic – but honest – a bright vigorous man. Herron is trying to “get even” with the Shackleford.</td>
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<td>September 8-9</td>
<td>Diary</td>
<td>Sunday – the Mariposa came into the harbor at noon. We went on board at 6 o’clock &amp; will go out some time tonight. I am quite satisfied with my campaign here. I leave with the assurances from my friends that I will get 75% of the total vote for Delegate! Our boat left Anchorage harbor this morning about 6 o’clock. The fog cleared away – and when we went between the “Forelands” the mountains began to glisten in the sun. All day long we have gone down the central line of Cook Inlet. Redoubt, Iliamna, Douglas and Augustine – a beautiful range 5000 feet high topped with the 10,000 ft. peaks!</td>
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<td>October 9</td>
<td>Diary</td>
<td>I am getting greatly disgusted with Geo. Dooley, the Republican candidate for Senator from the (3rd Division) district. He is following me every where &amp; making himself a part of my campaign – talks of “our speech”. and, when he is sober or not housed up somewhere with a whore, he is making it appear that I am his sponsor. He is weak – a woman and a bottle of whiskey will win him over to the fishing or other big interests and it will be very harmful full to the public good if he is elected to the Legislature as he may be with the support of my friends. I would much rather see Frame elected on the Progressive Democratic ticket, but fear the big interests will drag Dooley through! When the Mariposa came into Anchorage, Col. Richardson, Pres. Alaska Board of Rd. Com. came with her - and he is on board - returning with us to Seward. He has a double column article in the “Seward Gateway” attacking me - or rather defending himself - on the Road Appro. He almost weeps in his effort to claim the credit for increasing the Road appro, from $150,000 (which he recommended) to $500,000. Poor old Dick — too much whisky! Edes, Pres. Alaska Eng. Com. in charge of Govt. Ry. is aboard - &amp; he and Col. R- are in constant consultation. This boat belongs to the Alaska Syndicate - hence I get the poorest room &amp; worst accommodations on board - but I just grin &amp; keep still! Came into Seward this morning at 2 a.m. went to the McNeely Hotel - Visited many people &amp; looked the town over. Cannot get a hall - until after the picture show - so I Stake that. Speech in A.B. Hall tonight to good big audience - well received and feel that left good impression. Left Seward this forenoon at 10 o’clock on Admiral Watson. Leave things in Seward in good shape, and my friends are full of assurance of victory here. Touched at LaTouche this afternoon for half an hour -Dick Gilleneau &amp; other friends called assure me of good results here.</td>
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<td>October 12</td>
<td>Arrived in Valdes at midnight last night &amp; put up at the Phoenix Hotel with my old friend Dr Van Gunther. Today am visiting my friends etc. Tonight had a meeting with a number of business men on receipt of a telegram from the Clerk of the Interstate Commerce Commission, who has fixed Nov. 1 to hear Rate Cases at Cordova. Am trying to get Valdes merchants interested &amp; get ready their complaints for presentation to the Commission's agent at Cordova at the time fixed. They will meet again tomorrow to take some united action in the matter.</td>
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| October 13-14 | Fixing fences etc.  
     Another meeting tonight with business men in re Rate Case. Sent telegrams to Interstate Commerce Commission to get dates set for hearings. Telegrams to Henry Ray, & Jeffery about Snow letter etc.  
     The Ladies Auxiliary of the Pioneers held a social session and lunch on tonight - for me - I talked to them & we had a pleasant hour. Dinner with Dr & Mrs. Boyle.  
     Telegram from Ray saying he had made error in Snow letter matter - the letter was one written by Sulzer against the liquor interest etc. |
| October 14 | The Pioneers gave me a Sour Dough lunch today - from 12 m to 2 p.m. - 200 present and an enjoyable time.  
     Speech tonight to a crowded house - the A.B. Hall. The Mayor Patterson presided. Col Willard & Senator Hubbard spoke 10 minutes each, after which I spoke for an hour and a half - My speech was well received - my friends were highly delighted - and I was quite satisfied with the effort. I leave for Cordova tomorrow on a small boat - Things here are in as good condition as I can ask for - far better than when I came. We will carry this town by a good fair majority! |
| October 15-16 | Left Valdes this morning on the “Shamrock,” Captain Tim. Marcum. for Cordova where we arrived safely at 8 p.m. Geo. Dooley, candidate for Territorial Senator, also two merchant salesmen, & two other men, on the boat. Stopped at Ellamar for an hour & generally the trip was a good one. Am now at the “Alaska Hotel” etc.  
     Visiting with my Cordova friends - writing letters etc. Some letters & telegrams here - conditions in Territory seem to be encouraging - this town seems friendly. |
| October 17-18 | Letter from Russell, Dispatch, Juneau, giving me encouraging news from that division. Also telegram from Ray, at Fairbanks advising me that conditions there are satisfactory, and that I had better go to Juneau!  
     Had a fine “duck dinner” tonight with Judge Frazier & three other hunters. Every fall, as I come this way he -gives me such a dinner. He cooks the ducks himself - gets them on Copper River flats.  
     Speech tonight at Theater - well attended - big audience for Cordova & am satisfied - paid $30. for House for speech |
| October 19-20 | Left Cordova at 8 a.m. on the Copper Riv. & N.W. Ry. for Chitina. - the Co. sent their private car up for Steve Birch’s brother & asked me - Dooley & Horan Leach to occupy it.  
     At Chitina staid all night at Chitina House - Oscar Breedman, prop. & visited around. Will speak here on my return from McCarthy where I will go tomorrow.  
     Reached McCarthy at 2. p.m. The manager of the Kennecott mines refused to let me speak there - but invited me to come up tomorrow & visit the men |
Diary 27, 1916
October 20
20
to them personally.
Rec'd, telegram today:
Fairbanks, Oct 20, 1916
James Wickersham, Cordova.
Our opinion you and Sutherland will get sixty five per cent vote fourth division, seventy five per cent Fairbanks vote.  This, conservative estimate.
Dan Driscoll
E.R. Peoples.
Hope they are conservative!
My speech tonight was made in a big floored tent - there was a big audience present & things passed off pleasantly & to my satisfaction.  Got along fine & made good impression - friends say I will carry majority here.

Diary 27, 1916
October 21-22
-21-
Visiting around -
Went up to Kennecott Copper Co's mill - Smith the manager in charge, took me around & introduced me to the few men around the plant - but as they work 3 shifts we saw but few - None at Bonanza & Jumbo mines.  Dance tonight & I showed my face for an hour.
Raining - raining hard.

-22-
Sunday - Attended Socialist meeting - Mrs. Lena Morrow Lewis spoke.  Dinner at Blackburn supper with Barretts - Attended Movie Picture Show at Kennecott.

Diary 27, 1916
October 23-24
-23rd-
Left McCarthy for Chitina this a.m.  Chitina House - found the stage in from Fairbanks - Hess, Jack McCormack & two or three others in.  They say I will carry the interior by a good majority.  Spoke to a good house tonight at Chitina - A.B. Hall - but did not get up much steam.  Am tired & glad my speaking campaign is ended.

-24-
On train from Chitina to Cordova tonight - Sulzer & talk

Diary 27, 1916
October 25-26
-25-
Have spent the day in preparing the Mes for attack on Sulzer & Ronan on their records as enemies of Union Labor - in answer to their attack on me.  Sent a copy to the Anchorage Times with instructions to print in pamphlet form - 2500 copies & distribute there.
Mrs. Lewis, the Socialist candidate for Delegate spoke here tonight & roasted Sulzer - she answered many of his criticisms of me.

-26-
Resting - visiting etc.  Dinner with Mr. & Mrs. Cartwright - DeLeo & wife & Harry Thisted also present.  Sending telegrams to Fairbanks in explanation of my non-appearance.

Diary 27, 1916
October 27
-27th-
Sent out telegrams to Fairbanks explaining that on account of the Alaska Ry Case hearings on Nov. 10, it was not possible for me to come to the interior.  Other passengers here today from the interior - reports that I will carry the usual vote, but there seems to be a lack of enthusiasm.
Wrote Debbie a letter - our 36th Anniversary - married 36 years ago today.

[clipping]
CHAIRMAN WOOD
IS OUT FOR WICKERSHAM
WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.- In a statement today by its chairman, Representative Frank P. Woods, of Iowa, the national Republican congressional committee urged the re-election of Judge James Wickersham as a delegate to congress from Alaska.
“Alaskans could not select a better man to represent the territory in congress than Judge Wickersham,” said Chairman Woods.
**Diary 27, 1916**

**October 27-28**

"His long service in congress for more than seven years has equipped him, from experience in congressional affairs, to represent the people of Alaska in Washington better than anyone else in the territory. Always vigilant for the interests of Alaska and the nation, Judge Wickersham is one of the most valuable public servants in congress.

"A study of his work as a member of the territories, mines and mining, public lands, military affairs and Indian affairs committees, shows that he has done more in congress for the development of Alaska than any other member.

"The national Republican congressional committee believes that the people of Alaska will recognize the eminent services and high character of Judge Wickersham by re-electing him as a delegate to congress by a large majority."

The above telegram in this evenings paper gives me the endorsement of the Republican Cong. Com. Good.

**-28th-**

Sent long telegram to Juneau Dispatch in answer to inquiry as to my plans. Told them am remaining here for Alaska Rate Case hearings on Nov. 10. Dinner tonight with Bob Gottschalk & wife.

---

**October 29-30**

Snowy Sunday.

Town full of people from the interior waiting for the boat to go south. Dinner tonight with the Leach's & DeLeo's.

**-29th-**

Doing politics & gathering date for use in Hearings of the Interstate Com. Rate Case to be begun here on Nov 10th “Mariposa” in tonight and the Fairbanks crowd - Hess, the N.C. steamboat crowd & others went south. Dinner with Harry Thisted at “Castle Inn.” on the wharf -present Harry, Mr. & Mrs. McDonald, (sister of Mrs. Castle) and her brothers - the Nettleton boys - a very enjoyable one - we talked politics!

---

**November 1-3**

**-31st-**

Same as yesterday.

Nov 1st.

Took in the C.R. & N.W. Ry. shops today - master mechanic. Harry Steele Ed. Cordova Times & H.P. King from Valdes to dinner with me. Reports from Ter. good. Telegram from Dan Sutherland Nome, saying conditions there are good - that I will get a, good majority. Many offers of money to bet on me but no takers. It really looks as if I may be elected again. Sending out telegrams & keeping close control on territorial conditions.

**-Nov. 2.-**

Sent out telegram to Alaska newspapers today advising them of Alaska Rate Case hearings - also mentioning fact that Bogle for Kennecott Copper Corporation & Grosscup for other SS Go’s will represent those interests while I represent Alaska, etc.

Dinner with Dr & Mrs. Chase.

**-Nov. 3.-**

Snowy & wintry.

Steamer "Northwestern" in from Juneau - friends on board say conditions look better for me in first division.

**-Nov. 4.-**

Things political quiet but satisfactory - in Cordova - so far as I can now see.

---

**November 4-6**

**-Nov 5.**

Snow Sunday. Telegram from Ray saying Thompson of the Fairbanks News Miner was roasting me & claiming that I was not giving the facts etc. about setting Alaska Rate Case. I sent him a long telegram tonight for publication tomorrow. Well, things are ready for the big battle of ballots on Tuesday. I do not know of anything left undone -or anything else to do! I am ready –

**-Nov 6-**

Telegram to various parts of the Territory and looking after conditions here at Cordova, where things look good for tomorrow, (over
Diary 27, 1916
November 6

6

The evening before Election.
Tomorrow morning the people of this territory will begin to vote - & the day will determine if they are satisfied with me as their Delegate - & want me to serve for another two years. I do not know of anything I have left undone to present my candidacy to them fully, and I am ready for the verdict.
If I win I will go on as I have for the last eight years - if the decision is against me I will reorganize my law business & set to work to make some money - the making of which I have wholly neglected for sixteen years while serving as Judge & Alaska’s Delegate in Congress.

Diary 27, 1916
November 6

6

The “Alameda” will come into the harbor tonight or in the morning with the Examiner of the Interstate Commerce Commission & the attorneys of the Steamship and Railroad Companies to take the evidence in the Alaska Rate Cases - to begin Saturday, the 11th, and in which I am to represent the Samson Hd. Co. & the people of Alaska. The purpose of our suit is to secure a reduction of the present excessive rates & control of the transportation lines, - to prevent discrimination in favor of certain shippers & to establish through & joint - reasonable - rates for transportation of freight & passengers.

Diary 27, 1916
November 7

November 7th, 1916
ELECTION DAY.
CORDOVA, ALASKA.

Have remained here at the Alaska Hotel since concluding my speaking campaign. Election started off slow this morning but my friends enthusiastic & are cheered by a letter coming this morning from Ed. Russell on last nights mail on the “Alameda” saying we would carry the first (Juneau) Division by a small majority. My Democratic & Socialist opponents are both at Anchorage.

Diary 27, 1916
November 7

midnight

Cordova gave me 44 majority and Eyak 10 - McCarthy a majority - but other small precincts up the Copper River are against me.
I am beaten 35 votes in Valdes! The Yukon river towns all gave majorities against me & even Douglas - near Juneau!
On the face of all the returns to the time the telegraph office closed I am defeated - There is a chance yet that Fairbanks, Nome, Ruby, Seward, Anchorage & the Juneau division may pull me out - but on the face of all we have to closing time tonight I am defeated! (over)

Diary 27, 1916
November 7-8

7

The returns from the States indicates that Hughes is elected! It also seems that Sutherland is defeated by McGowan! The returns tomorrow will be necessary to tell the tale, but I go to bed tonight feeling that the decision is against me. The Railroad bill - my 35,000,000 success is the case of it! Well, I’ll take a good sleep & see what tomorrow shows.

-Nov 8.-

My election is doubtful.
I carried Ketchikan by 87 - but lost Juneau, Thane, Treadwell & Douglas by a much larger vote.
I have carried Anchorage by 90 & also Nome & Fairbanks.
### Diary 27, 1916

**November 8**

but lost everything along the Yukon river from Eagle to St Michael - the N.C. Co’s work. Seward gave me a good majority. The Juneau Dispatch claims my election by 300 - the Valdes Prospector claims Sulzer has a lead of 224. The truth is that there are so many precincts yet unreported that its anyone’s race - no one can yet tell who.

Some scattered Reports.

[clipping showing election results for the first division]

**November 8**

[clipping showing election results for the second, third and fourth divisions.]

**November 9-10**

My election is in such doubt that probably nothing less than the final count by the Returning Board will settle it. Nothing new.

-9th -

The Interstate Commerce Examiner, accompanied by Bogle, General Counsel for the Kennecott Copper Co, C.R. & N.W. Ry Co. & Alaska SS. Line, Grosscup, representing the Admiral & Pacific Coast Co’s & Gorham representing the White Pass companies, are here & I waived time and today began talking testimony in the Alaska Rate Cases - An important Case.

**November 11-16**

-11th -

Hearings on Alaska Rate Case today and all witnesses here fully examined have now go to Juneau to continue further hearings. Leave on the “Northwestern” tonight - Nothing definite yet about Election - some doubts though I have gained some precincts - but do not think enough.

-12th -

We left Cordova this day on the “Northwestern” for Juneau. Heavy “Southeaster” blowing - high winds & rain -lay out behind Hinchenbrook Island all night - rolling in the trough of the sea waiting for better weather.

**November 13-16**

-13-

Pushed out southward into heavy storm & high seas – bad -

-14-

Our boat loaded with 1700 tons of copper ore (from Cordova-Kennecott) & could not make time - just wallowing in the sea & everybody sick.

-15th -

Same as yesterday. Heavy sea broke cabin door & nearly drowned me in my berth –

-16-

We finally came into Icy Straits this forenoon after the heaviest storm I ever experienced.

Arrived in Juneau tonight - no new election returns - same doubt & uncertainty - there can be no result until the Returning Board makes the final count in a month or so!

**November 17-18**

-17th -

Hearing before Examiner of Inter State Commerce Commission this afternoon at Customs House on Alaska Rate Case. Examined Chas. Goldstein, merchant & Ed. C. Russell, Ed. Dispatch. Hearings tomorrow.

-18th -

Hearings Alaska Rate Case continued today - Rustgard gave much of the interior history of the Yukon River rate combinations & Phil Bradley told as little as he could about the special contract which his company (Treadwell Min. Co) had with the Pac. Coast S.S. Co. It seems to me I am making a good record but opposition counsel laugh at it, & say they fear not.

**November 18**

[letter from Debbie]

Washington D.C. Nov. 11th, ’16.

My dear husband.

Some people may think you are to be pitied - and want to sympathize with you - but as far as I am concerned I think you are to be congratulated. You
have worked long enough for other people and got nothing but kicks for it. Now we will try it for ourselves awhile, and I want you to decide for yourself what you want to do.

I would just as soon go to Alaska as to remain in Seattle, and if I ever get back to you I don’t much care where we are - so we are together. I felt dreadfully over Hughes’s defeat at first - but every thing has its compensations - and to see Geo. W. Wickersham throw up his hands and “holler” comforts me greatly. The progressives took their spite out on Wall Street and I can’t say I blame them - only it was too bad to make a fine man like Hughes the “goat” -but if he had been elected I don’t think you and Dan would have had much show with him.

I had a lovely trip with Darrell from N.Y. to Buffalo in his auto - spent a month with him and would have stayed longer, only he is traveling most of the time - and also trying to study for his exams, which they expect to come up in December, and I wanted to get where I could see the Alaska papers. When George got your telegram saying you would not be here before the middle of December I could have wept - it seemed so long. I try not to feel blue - but when I think of you having to start all over again and your age - and how helpless I am I certainly have to whistle hard to keep up my courage.

but I guess that is more homesickness than anything else. This election has been very interesting and some very funny things have happened - Hadley came within a few votes of being defeated by a woman - and oh-how I hoped he would be - he got the scare of his life anyway - I was glad to see Poindexter win. I am at Mrs. Morton’s in our old room and will stay here until you come –then we must go back to Congress Hall and finish in a blaze of glory - I have to laugh when I think of our side of the dining room - beginning with the first - table - Davenport was defeated - then table 2 – Senator Kern – table 3 – Cullofs (from duchess) table 4 Adair – table 5 Cline – table six Hughes – and “we are seven.” so you see we

will not be lonely. reads like a “bridge party” doesn’t it. I think the great regret the defeated members will leave is to think they are leaving just as the first woman to sit in congress is coming – my what a good time she will have. Do you know, I feel as though I would like to go right home to Fairbanks. I could stand Mrs. Rickert and Mrs. McGowan, but I can’t bear to think of you being insulted by Irwin and Brunnell, however we will not cross any bridges in advance. I haven’t written you before because I thought you were going to Fairbanks, and would not receive them. Com as soon as you can.

With Love Debbie.

Darrell is sick over having Daniels another four years.

The above letter from Debbie is so typical of her clean, solid and lovable character that I have pasted it here hoping to retain it as long as I live & I hope almost now - quite so - that I am elected for her sake, but if not I’ll certainly see to it that she loses nothing in comfort or happiness by the change.

Personally I have felt a sense of relief that I may be free from the heavy burden of duty to Alaska which she, equally with me, has so aided me to carry for nearly sixteen years. God bless her.


[S clipping]

SURPRISES IN THE VOTING

One of the early signs that something astonishing was in the political atmosphere, was the vote of Milwaukee in the Presidential primary early in the summer. President Wilson received an overwhelming indorsement from the popular vote then cast. That he should receive more votes than all other candidates for Presidential nominations, on all other tickets, was an eye-opener. It made a good many people marvel. The most German city
in the country seemed willing to take especial trouble to indorse Mr. Wilson. One explanation was that the solidarity of the German opposition to Wilson had driven all the rest to support him; a more plausible was that there was no “German vote” when it came to voting, and that the Germans divided as always.

Now comes the election results with a list of such eccentricities, not yet nearly completed. Wilson carried St. Louis, one of the greatest German centers; the Republicans carried Cincinnati by a very low majority, that city being another German center. The Germans are very strong in Omaha, yet Nebraska goes Democratic, though Omaha’s German vote was counted likely to be a powerful factor against Democratic success in the State.

New Hampshire [?] that is [?]. If it hasn’t gone Democratic, it has come so near as to make it almost Democratic. Doubtless the explanation dates back to the State’s revolt against the old Boston and Maine regime which bossed it for many years. Under Church, Bass, and others, the protest took form; there came an awakening; the State accidentally chose a Democratic Senator four years ago because of the Republican split; there was war prosperity in its industrial centers, and the rural population may be assumed to have been influenced largely by the kept-us-out-of-war argument.

[Wickersham has outlined the next paragraph]

Looking for surprises, again, who would have guessed, after reading the sort of literature that has given us our impressions of Alaska, that it would go dry? Well, it is now claimed that every town in the Territory went dry, and that prohibition had one of its most sweeping victories there! Doing this, Alaska turned its back on “Jim” Wickersham, the most loyal, useful, effective representative that any Territory ever had in Congress - and elected in his stead a brother of the “Same old Bill” Sulzer! Truly, politics is a great game.

[clipping]

SULZER REMAINS IN LEAD, HAS 82 VOTES PLURALITY
Sulzer Wick
First Division 2,387 1,894
Second Division 589 762
Third Division 1,636 1,894
Fourth Division 1,592 1,572
Totals 6,204 6,122

Additional recheck on the returns from certain precincts of the First Division show that Charles A. Sulzer has lost 22 votes, which had been credited to him and Wickersham gained 3 votes over the figures previously received by the Empire.

We hope the remaining precincts will show gains for me - & are now satisfied the result is already in our favor not withstanding that liars figure!

This cuts Sulzer's plurality in the First Division from 518 to 493, and cuts his lead on the Territory from 160 to 82, with the additional returns received today.

This recheck is due to the fact that figures received by The Empire from three precincts in the Division were not reported correctly.

The vote at Charcoal Point had been reported as 45 for each Sulzer and Wickersham, but the corrected returns are 35 for Sulzer and 48 for Wickersham. Beaver Falls had been reported 36 for Sulzer and 2 for Wickersham, but the actual vote was 8 for Sulzer and 4 for Wickersham. This makes a difference in favor of Wickersham of 25 votes.

The count now stands 2,387 as Sulzer's vote in the First Division, and 1,894 for Wickersham, making the balance 493 in favor of Sulzer. The only two precincts in this Division yet to be heard from are Shakan and Yakutat. At the former precinct there were but 8 votes cast and there are but possibly 4 at Yakutat. It is estimated that Sulzer will receive a majority of 7 of the 12 votes still to be reported which will make his majority from this Division an even 500 votes.

Additional returns received today from the Third Division give Sulzer 39 and Wickersham 80 votes out of a total of 119 votes cast in six precincts in that Division. The total vote in that Division now stands Sulzer 1,636 and Wickersham 1,894.
Many long and pleasant talks with Zipp - former agent of N.C. Co. at St. Michael, about Nome days & Yukon river friends.

-23rd-

Seymour Narrow - a beautiful day on Gulf of Georgia. Reached Vancouver at 4:20 & change to the Great Northern Ry for Seattle - Reached Frye Hotel 10:30 p.m. Some of my friends & P-I reporter to meet me there.

-24th-

WICKERSHAM IS HERE FROM ALASKA
Delegate Says He Expects Complete Returns to Show His Election.
COMES ON RATE HEARING.
Friends Count on 200 Lead for Him at Official Canvass in January.

James Wickersham, delegate to congress from the territory of Alaska, whose candidacy for re-election is being closely contested on the face of the incomplete returns of the balloting on November 7, arrived in Seattle last night to participate in the continued hearing of the Alaska freight rates before the Interstate Commerce Commissioner H.C. Wilson Commencing Saturday. Believes He is Elected.

Delegate Wickersham, who registered at the Frye hotel immediately after his arrival on the steamship Humboldt, announced that he was quite certain that he had been returned as congressional delegate from the North, but declared that he had been engaged with the interstate commerce commission hearings at Cordova and Juneau and had not had time to inquire particularly into the results of election day. Attorneys B.S. Grosscup, of Tacoma, and W.H. Bogle and William H. Gorham, of Seattle, attorneys for the transportation companies, were also passengers on the Humboldt.

In answer to a query as to the outcome of the congressional election, the returns of which indicate a very close contest between himself and Charles A. Sulzer, his Democratic opponent, Delegate Wickersham said:

Sulzer Claims Only 70 Lead.

"I believe that the final canvass of the vote will be required to determine who has been chose and I feel confident that these returns will demonstrate that I have been re-elected. My supporters, just before I left Juneau, were claiming my re-election by a trifle over 200 votes, while the best claims of opponents was the election of Mr. Sulzer by 70 votes.

The foregoing from Seattle P.I. Mrs. McMillan-Patton, of Hoquiam (Debbie’s friend) in the Hotel & she and her sister had dinner with me tonight - also Dan Sutherland. Am now established in the Frye & ready to begin work on Alaska Rate Cases.

Parsons, of Dexter Horton Bank, again urged upon me the consideration of his suggestion of coming to Seattle to Practice law. Am to take
dinner with him Tuesday to talk about it.

**Diary 27, 1916**

**November 24-25**

24

Returns are in from Koyukuk - I had 23 majority, and according to my count that puts me ahead - but there are three or four precincts from the 2nd Div. & as many more from the 3rd & at least one from the first yet to hear from - Nothing definite yet!

-25th –

Telegraphed Debbie to rent our old rooms at Congress Hall & move in on Dec. First. Telephoned Jennie, at Enumclaw, & will take dinner with them Thanksgiving. Mother is well. Studying the papers in Alaska Rate Case today & getting ready for next week.

**Diary 27, 1916**

**November 25**

[clipping]

ALASKAN RATES
HEARING DELAYED
Investigation of Alleged Excessive and Discriminatory Charges Put Over Until Monday Morning.

Because of delay in the arrival of Examiner H.C. Wilson and a number of steamship men and attorneys who have been attending hearings at Cordova and Juneau, the investigation of the Interstate Commerce Commission of charges of excessive and discriminatory rates and practices by steamship lines operating to Alaska, which was to begin in Seattle at 10 o’clock this morning, has been postponed until 10 o’clock Monday morning. The hearings are being conducted by H.C. Wilson of Washington, D.C., examiner for the Interstate Commerce Commission, with A.W. Person of Portland, Ore., as official reporter.

Wilson and a number of steamship officials including W.H. Bogle, of Seattle, counsel for the Alaska Steamship Company, Judge Ben S. Grosscup of Tacoma, counsel for the Pacific Steamship Company and R.S. James, assistant general freight agent of the Pacific Steamship Company, are aboard the steamship City of Seattle which has been delayed on her voyage from ports in the North and will not reach Seattle until late this afternoon.

The hearing to be held in Seattle is a continuation of the investigation conducted at Cordova and Juneau, which was instituted on complaint of James Wickersham, delegate to Congress from Alaska. Wickersham is now in Seattle and will attend the sessions to be held here. He complained that small merchants were being charged higher rates than large dealers and big mining and canning companies in the North.

The hearing was to be held in Seattle December 4, but on request of attorneys representing the several steamship companies, the date was advanced, as the investigation in Alaska was completed earlier than anticipated. Delay in the arrival of the steamship City of Seattle will now mean a postponement of the hearing until 10 o’clock Monday morning. The investigation will be held in one of the court rooms at the Federal Building.

**Diary 27, 1916**

**November 26-28**

-26-

Spent the day with Kalish and Bush, of the Humboldt S.S. Co. studying transportation rates in Alaska and getting ready for Hearings tomorrow. Dan Sutherland and Nome people interested, but do nothing.

-27th-

Hearings of Alaska Rate Case in Post Office Bldg. Introduced much testimony - opponents sparring to put off hearings until we reach Washington. Dinner tonight with Barney McGee at the Savoy Hotel.

-28th-

Hearings same as yesterday. Lunch with Parsons, V.P. of the Dexter Horton Nat. Bank who urges me to establish a law office in Seattle!

**Diary 27, 1916**

**November 28-30**

28

We concluded the Seattle Hearings of the Alaska Rate case today - adjourned further hearings to
Washington D.C.
Am going to Enumclaw & Buckley this afternoon to visit Mother and Jennie. Went to Enumclaw with Axel Hanson by automobile - supper at Charley Hanson's - Charley & Jen. children, Mother, Frank Hanson & wife.

Thanksgiving Day - Fine turkey dinner at Jens. Mother & I went to Buckley — to the old home - good quiet visit.

Dec. 1-2
Came to Tacoma this morning & went out & inspected my Puyallup valley farm - its a fine piece of valley land -Two Jap's have 45 acres of it in cultivation - pay $1000. a year rent. W. P. Hopping & Co. who attend to my rent collections paid me $1000. - retaining something over $400. to pay taxes etc. Back to Seattle tonight - Think I will start East on N. P. Ry tomorrow evening.

Dec. 2-
Lunch at Arctic Club with McPherson, Joslin & Lechey -they are working up a lobby to aid the Seattle

Dec. 2-3
Bill pending in Congress to close the Port of Prince Rupert - so Alaska fish must go via Seattle as in the past! I am opposed to the scheme. Left Seattle on the 7:10 evening train for the East. I left a big trunk full of old Alaska papers and documents at the Frye Hotel - in storage. Deposited $1500 in Debbie’s name in Exeter Horton National Bank for one year at 3 1/2 per cent interest.

Dec. 3-
Spokane this morning on summit Rockies at 5 ocklock this evening

Dec. 4-7
Montana-North Dakota

Minneapolis - St Paul. Reached Chicago at 10 p.m.

Dec. 7-8
was born in 1800 - Am at the Seilbach Hotel -the finest in Louisville & will go out in the morning to Harrodsburg

From Louisville to Harrodsburg - the country around Harrodsburg is rolling - cut with streams and formerly covered with a forest of oak, hickory, walnut, etc. It was a country filled with game & the streams with fish - an ideal hunters paradise - and of course attractive to the early pioneers.

Five Wickersham's from Pennsylvania came to Harrods Fort in or about 1785 and the family has been well represented in this vicinity from that day to this.

I secured the service of a young lawyer here in Harrodsburg, Mr. Charles T. Corn, to assist me in the pursuit of my lost ancestor, and we have been examining the old records in the hope of “getting a line on him.”

Mr. John Morgan, the Sheriff, gave me suggestions and aid. We found a record of deeds to Sampson Wickersham, of several hundred acres of land on Chaplin river, about ten miles west of Harrodsburg. The deeds were dated in 1796 and stated the fact that he then resided on the land. Mr. Morgan informed me that a daughter of Sampson Wickersham yet resided on the land and kindly took me to see her - in his automobile.

We found her living in an ancient house on the
south side of the river and I had a long and interesting conversation with her. She told me that she is the daughter of Sampson Wickersham and that her age is 78 hears. She knew my grandfather,

Diary 27, 1916 December 8
8 James L. Wickersham, and referred to him as “Uncle Jimmy,” and to her own father as “Pap.” She gave me the names of her father and his brothers and sisters as follows:

- Jacob W-
- Sampson W-
- James L. W-
- Jess W-
- Phoebe W-
- Priscilla W-

The brothers are given in the order of their ages – she thinks - but is not sure. Knew nothing of the dates of birth nor of the order of birth of the two girls.

She is the daughter of Sampson, and her name is Eliza Donovan. She has a sister - an older sister. Mrs. M.C. Huffman residing at Beason, Illinois.

Diary 27, 1916 December 8
8 But, She does not know the name of the father of Jacob. Sampson, et. al. So I am no better off - in that regard, than before, for my whole inquiry is: Who was the father of my grandfather James? What was his name? Given that I could trace his Revolutionary record and connect back with the Chester Co. Penn. family which I have in the History of Chester Co. Pa.

Mrs. Donovan tells me her aunt Priscilla’s son is Jacob Isham, who now resides in this County - and whom I intend to see tomorrow [aunt Priscilla] - or at least see Isham, the Cousin.

She thinks he can tell me the name of Sampson’s father. Corn found the record of the marriage license of my grandfather in 1834-

Diary 27, 1916 December 8-9
8 James L. Wickersham was married to Eliza League (the mother of Sam & Tom) on July 2, 1834, by Thos. Kyle, at Harrodsburg, Ky. Mrs. Donovan tells me that James L. (my grandfather) was married to a Mrs. Brown after his wife of 1834 dead in Patoka, Ill. but I cannot yet find any record of his marriage to my grandmother - the mother of my father - and I fear they were married either in Washington or an adjoining country. More tomorrow.

-9th -

We resumed our chase this morning after my long lost ancestor - Old Squire Bottom is an aged and bright minded resident & coming into the Clerks office was asked if he knew the old Wickersham families of

Diary 27, 1916 December 9
9 [card of Charles T. Corn, Attorney at Law, Harrodsburg, Kentucky.]

Harrodsburg and Chaplin River & replied that he remembered them well.

On inquiry he declared promptly (almost too promptly it seemed to me) that the father of Sampson, (James etc. was one Jacob Wickersham. But on close inquiry I had doubts, so Mr. Charles J. Corn, a young lawyer, and I went out to see Mr. Jacob Sampson Isham, a grandson of Sampson Wickersham.

Mr. Isham resides at Battle, a ridge top settlement south of the Chaplin River, about 4 miles west of Corneshille, and about 12 miles west of Harrodsburg.

Mr. Isham is my fathers cousin, and is a remarkably well preserved and vigorous old man - the son of Priscilla, the daughter of Sampson Wickersham [possibly confused names here]

Mr. Isham has a clearer recollection of names etc. than Mrs. Donovan and gave the following list of his uncles and aunts:

1. Daniel Boone Wickersham
2. Jacob Wickersham
3. George Wickersham
4. Sampson Wickersham
5. James L. Wickersham
6. Ruth Wickersham
7. Priscilla Wickersham
8. Phoebe Wickersham
9. Jesse Wickersham

After giving me the list, as nearly in accordance with the dates of their birth as possible Mr. Isham was asked: “Now who was the father of those nine children?”

He answered -promptly, “James Wickersham was the father and Elizabeth Barker, Wickersham, the mother.”

So here we are with two great grandfathers in one day! Mr. Isham on further inquiry admits he may be mistaken about the name of his grandfather - and further inquiry must be made to leave it beyond doubt.

He tells me that his eldest uncle, Daniel Boone Wickersham, went out to Arkansas, near Little Rock long ago and resided there until his death during the War 1861-65. He was hanged by guerillas to make him disclose where he had hidden his gold - he did not tell.

He told me all about my grand father, James L. Wickersham and attended his funeral at Antioch, Wash- Co. (now Anderson Co.). Ruth Wickersham, his aunt married a Kirkland. Priscilla married an Isham - she was his - Jacob Sampson Isham's - mother. Sampson Wickersham has two daughters yet living - Mrs. Eliza Donovan, whom I saw yesterday and Mrs. M.C. Huffman, of Beason, Ill.

I cannot find the name of my grandfathers first wife - my fathers mother, but the record of marriages of Harrodsburg show that on July 2, 1834 he married Eliza League, his second wife, and the mother

Sampson R. Wickersham, and Thomas

Wickersham his two youngest children - half brothers to my father.

Daniel Boone Wickersham was the oldest of my grandfathers brothers; my grandfather was (I think) the fifth son and was born in 1801. Aunt Priscilla was born in 1805 and Aunt Phoebe in 1807, and Jesse was the baby in the family. A Mrs. Eliza Logue (not League) is the daughter of Jess and now resides about 4 miles from Harrodsburg. She ought to know the name of her grandfather - my great grandfather.

Returned to Harrodsburg and left there at 2:30

Mr. Charles T. Corn, will further inquire into the matters & write me the results. I left $30.00 with him to pay expenses.

-10th-

Across Virginia today and reached Washington at 4:15 this afternoon. Found Debbie waiting for me at our rooms in the Congress Hall Hotel. I am glad the long journey is over. No news about my election - yet in doubt, and probably will be until the canvass of the returns in January

-11th-

In the office at work - and there is plenty of it ahead. The Alexander Fisheries Bill comes up on Wednesday.
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| December 12-13 | Appointed young Johnson of Juneau to Annapolis today - for Valentine. Am preparing a Prohibition Bill for Alaska. Mrs. Hatcher & Mrs. Boole, officers of the W.C.T.U. were in to see me, with Judge Houston. They agreed to prepare the outline of what they want & Houston & I will add to it & do the rest. The Alexander Bill is up before the House tomorrow. Had a field day in the House. Talked the Alexander Fish Bill to death. See the
| Diary 27, 1916 December 13-14 | Congressional Record for this day. Alone - single handed I fought it and the entire Com. on Merchant Marine & Fisheries, and won - to my surprise! I am much pleased and have had many compliments upon the strength and success of my effort. (Debbie was present in the gallery & is as much pleased as I am.). -14th- A contest today before the Examiner of the Interstate Commerce Commission - taking testimony in the Alaska Rate cases. F. C. Elliott, Pres. White Pass & Yukon Route, and Leon Sloss, of the N.C. & N.N. Co. as Witnesses. Going Good. |
| Diary 27, 1916 December 15-16 | Another day of taking testimony in the Alaska Rate Case, before the Examiner of the Interstate Commerce Commission - It seems to me, I am making a good case but there are some points of law involved which may give me trouble - Testimony will be finished tomorrow. -16- We finished taking testimony in the Alaska Rate Case today. I am impressed with the loose method of taking such testimony. The Ry Companies are allowed to file unverified statements without even having them filed by a witness who is familiar with their contents. |
| Diary 27, 1916 December 16-17 | and even where evidence and statements are produced at the demand of the Commission it may - it is - in this case - not verified - only partially complete etc. No such evidence would be permitted to be received in a justice of the peace court. I am given until January 25th to file my brief. -17th- Sunday Lunch at Mr & Mrs Charles Sheldon's - Author of "The Wilderness of the Upper Yukon" & "The Wilderness of the North Pacific Coast Islands." Present Mr. & Mrs. C. Hast Merriam & Mr. E. W. Nelson, naturalist. A pleasant visit with Sheldon's 4 beautiful children. Dan Sutherland, Senator, from Ruby, Alaska, at hotel tonight. |
| Diary 27, 1916 December 18-19 | Hearing today on Alexander Fisheries bill before Senate Committee - a committee of fishermen from San Francisco was present fighting & Dan Sutherland joined in the attack. Nothing was done, but the Senators seemed prejudiced against the bill. Senator Lane is clearly "against" it and when any attempt is seriously made to consider it I will be permitted to have a hearing. Sutherland and I are preparing a "Prohibition bill for Alaska! Heavy snow storm raging tonight. Sutherland to dinner with us. -19th- Introduced Prohibition |
| Diary 27, 1916 December 19 | Bill for Alaska in the House today. Sutherland is interested in the Alaska Agricultural College & I am gathering all laws, etc. for him & instructing him how to secure buildings & then support by the U.S. I am disappointed - or rather surprised - that the Lieutenants in Darrell's class have all just been appointed Lt. Commanders - but Darrell is not in the list. It may be all right - but he has been having to much trouble with "sea sickness" that I fear he may be left out & not promoted. Of course that would mean his retirement from the Navy. That might |
### Diary 27, 1916

#### December 20

Even be a good thing for him - but one can't tell.

Dan Sutherland & I visited Dr. C.C. Claxton, Com. of Education, about a plan of putting into effect the law authorizing the building of an Agricultural College & School of Mines at Fairbanks. He promises to assist us, and Dan is to attempt to secure an appropriation from the Alaska Legislature to start the work on buildings etc. Dan & I also visited Chairman Houston, of Com. on Ter. to which Com. the Alaska Prohibition bill was referred. He advises us the Committee will hold a meeting on January 10th to hear evidence for and against the bill. He thinks it doubtful if it can be passed this Congress.

---

#### December 21

The opposite clipping is from the Seattle P-I. of Dec. 15. Am also today in receipt of a letter from Maurice D. Lechey congratulating me on my success in killing the bill. Am now starting work on the brief in the Alaska Rate Case. Its a big case & there are many hard knots in the threads.

[clipping]

**ALASKA FISH BILL**  
LOSES BY DELAYS  
Measure Practically Dead So  
Far as This Session Is Concerned. Admitted.  
MONOPOLY IS CHARGED.  
Test Vote Indicated It Would Have  
Passed Had It Been Scheduled  
Yesterday.  
By Ashmun Brown.  
Special to the Post-Intelligencer.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.- So far as this session of congress is concerned the Alaska fisheries bill is practically dead. Chairman Alexander, of the board on merchant marine and fisheries, admitted as much just before the house adjourned Wednesday afternoon.

The bill, which was unanimously reported by Mr. Alexander's committee in August, after months of study and the taking of testimony, followed largely the draft originally offered by the bureau of fisheries and the department of commerce. It provides laws for the government of Alaska fisheries modeled much after the laws of Washington. But it took from the Alaska legislature all authority over the fisheries and took from the legislature its present power to tax them, placing entire control in the bureau of fisheries.

Monopoly Is Charged.

Delegate Wickersham, in a speech lasting more than an hour, during which he was frequently interrupted, charged that the bill would operate to confirm the Libby, the Booth and the Alaska Packers’ Association interests in a virtual monopoly of fisheries, and would keep the legislature from taxing the $10,000,000 worth of real estate owned in the territory by the packers.

Representative Kent, of California, and several others, gave him support. The burden of defense fell on Representative Hadley, of Washington, and Hardy, of Texas, and Chairman Alexander. Representatives Humphrey and La Follette also aided these three. So acrimonious was the debate that little progress in actual consideration of the bill had been made when adjournment time came.

Lost Through Delay.

It was ruled that the bill having been read on last calendar Wednesday, it has been twice up on calendar Wednesday and thus loses its position at the top of the calendar. It cannot again be reached on calendar Wednesday until the call of the committee comes around again to the committee on merchant marine and fisheries, and there is practically no chance of this during the short session.

Delegate Wickersham charges monopoly and also his charge that the fishing interests have maintained a lobby here for the last eight years to secure legislation of this character, had a far-reaching effect of stirring up opposition. Nevertheless, as test votes on the amendment proposed by Mr. Wickersham indicated, had the bill come to a vote yesterday it would have been
passed. Hampered by the rules, there was no way of forcing it to a vote save through a special gag rule and the precaution to obtain this had not been taken.

**Diary 27, 1916**

**December 22-24**

-22-

Working on Alaska Rate Case.

-23rd-

Correspondence - Young Mr. McKinnon & Mr. Johnson of Juneau, called. They are the two boys I have nominated for appointment to Annapolis Naval Academy & are here to begin work in the preparatory school. Gave them a note to the Naval Bureau & they went there to arrange for dates of examination, etc. They will take dinner with us this evening.

-24th-

Sunday - working in office - reading etc.

**Diary 27, 1916**

**December 25-29**

-25th –

Christmas Day. Worked in office on preparation of material for brief in Alaska Rate Case

-26th –

Same as yesterday.

-27th –

Same as yesterday.

-28-

Same as yesterday. No Congress in Session this week & I am trying to catch up with my correspondence also.

-29th –

Same as yesterday. Am preparing abstract of evidence in Alaska Rate Case brief in alphabetical index form. Its hell of a big job.

**Diary 27, 1916**

**December 30-31**

-30th.

Working on my brief in Alaska Rate Case. Rec'd, beautifully bound copy (2 Vols) of Ross Arctic Voyages 1835, from Mrs. S.J. McMillan - Patton of Hoquiam. She sent Mrs. W. her photograph. My books are fine edition & add much to my library of Eskimo on literature.

-31st-

Sunday - Fine wintry day.
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<td>July 23, 1916 through March 4, 1917</td>
<td>Fund&quot; from the U.S. Treasury to the Territorial Treasury, and placing it at the disposal of the Legislature of Alaska in lieu of license’s lost by the prohibition bill - He promptly said he would do it. I gave him copy of letter written by Sec. Garrison in 1913 approving the transfer &amp; he promised to write his approval to Chairman Houston of the Com. on Ter. If I can get that Sec. retained in the bill it will also do much to prevent Col. Richardson from controlling our local affairs in Alaska. (Dan Sutherland told me that Charlie Herron told him that Richardson said he intended to kill me if he could get the law on his side! He is a coward &amp; wants protection to his murder.)</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 7-10</td>
<td>Same as yesterday. Mrs. Hatcher &amp; Mrs. Ellis &amp; Judge Houston in the office discussing H.R. my Prohibition bill for Alaska. Hearing on it on January 10. Working on that damned brief.</td>
<td>4th</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 7-10</td>
<td>Sunday – worked on brief for I.C.C. Working on Brief. Dan Sutherland &amp; Chas. Herron came to Congress Hall Hotel tonight. Our Alaska Prohibition bill will be up for hearing tomorrow. The Senate today passed the Prohibition bill for the District of Columbia.</td>
<td>5th</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 7-10</td>
<td>Gave one hour to the Dentist who says my teeth are perfect - except one I broke off years ago when I bit a bone. Working on Brief.</td>
<td>6th</td>
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<td>January 7-10</td>
<td>Same as yesterday. Gave one hour to the Dentist who says my teeth are perfect - except one I broke off years ago when I bit a bone. Working on Brief. Dan Sutherland &amp; Chas. Herron came to Congress Hall Hotel tonight. Our Alaska Prohibition bill will be up for hearing tomorrow. The Senate today passed the Prohibition bill for the District of Columbia.</td>
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<td>January 7-10</td>
<td>Earings today before the House Com. on Territories on Alaska Prohibition bill. Dan Sutherland, Mrs. Hatcher Mrs. Boole &amp; a member of Others</td>
<td>8th</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 12-14</td>
<td>Working on I.C.C. Brief. Another hearing today before Com. on Ter. on Alaska Prohibition Bill. Also working on I.C.C. Brief. [clipping] More Alaska Returns Received. FAIRBANKS, Alaska, January 13.- Official returns from Alaska's fourth election division received today showed the following result on the vote at the recent election for delegate to Congress: Charles Sulzer, democrat, 1,688; James W-, Republican, 1,681. Official returns from all the divisions have not been received, but from official and unofficial returns W- leads by eleven votes. The official count may change the result. Ain't that a hell of a “lead”?</td>
<td>12th</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 12-14</td>
<td>appeared &amp; gave me assistance. Curry of Cal. &amp; Johnson of Wash, appeared in opposition - as usual. Hearings concluded &amp; Com. will take up the bill on Thursday or Friday for consideration. Com. on Public Lands also favorably reported the Senate &amp; bill for the creation of Mt. McKinley Nat. Park. This will probably result in passing the bill at this session. Hearings today before the House Com. on Territories on Alaska Prohibition bill. Dan Sutherland, Mrs. Hatcher Mrs. Boole &amp; a member of Others</td>
<td>13th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 12-14</td>
<td>Hearings today before the House Com. on Territories on Alaska Prohibition bill. Dan Sutherland, Mrs. Hatcher Mrs. Boole &amp; a member of Others</td>
<td>14th</td>
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**January 15**

- Recd. letter from Gov. Strong saying the canvassing board intended to compile the returns this week & advising me that I might have an attorney present - as it was to late to write I sent the following telegram -

  **Washington D.C. Jany 15, 1917.**
  
  Governor J. F. A. Strong
  
  Member canvassing board.

  Juneau, Alaska. Letter received. Section five Article one Constitution United States provides each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members. The Alaska Canvassing Board has no authority under act creating it to do more than tabulate returns, canvass and compile in writing and issue certificate to candidate having the greatest number of votes for delegate on the face of the returns. Any contest or trial must be begun before the house of Representatives. See Hinds Precedents volume one section twenty three. Please give copy to Emory Valentine.

  James Wickersham
  Delegate from Alaska.

  The Clerk of the House has just prepared and distributed an “unofficial list of the members of the 65th Congress in which he gives the Delegate from Alaska, “Charles A. Sulzer, Fairbanks.”

  Rather previous? but probably they intend to count me out any way - but “Ishkabibble” - who cares? It won’t be long till its settled anyway.

---

**January 16**

- Another hearing today on the Alaska Prohibition bill —Joslin & McKenzie both appeared & denounced the form of the bill - declaring it ought to have been drawn so as to give the Alaska Legislature full power to pass such prohibition laws, etc. The attorney for the National Liquor Dealers Assoc. & the Atty. for the Northern Commercial Co. seconded Joslin’s idea & tried to persuade the Com. on Ter. to “back track”. I opposed their plan—successfully - see printed “Hearings” before the Com. for particulars.

  Darrell is with us this week - on his examination for promotion to Lt. Com. - but he is having trouble with his health certificate, act, his bad record for seasickness.

---

**January 17-18**

- Working finishing touches on my I.C.C. brief in the Alaska Rate Case.

  The Public Buildings Bill is before the House today & the Capitol Appropriation for Juneau was approved. Further hearings before the Com. on Ter. on Prohibition bill -continued till tomorrow!

  **January 18**

  printed copy in the hearings of Jany 22, 1915, before Com. on Ter. which changed the sense of Garrison’s letter & I did not know it, and relying on it gave it to Baker to prove the fact. He pointes out the error & declined to approve the transfer. I will look up the original & see if the mistake is in the original or the printed copy.

  E.G. Hughes of Seattle, Joslin & others are urging the introduction of a Joint Resolution for a Joint Committee from the Senate & the House to visit Alaska this summer. We had a meeting tonight at the Willard Hotel to consider the matter & agreed to work unitedly for it. I am to prepare the copy. Senator Pittman & Chairman Houston were there & will assist in securing the passage.

---

**January 19**

- Took the greater part of the Mss. for my Interstate Commerce Brief in the Alaska Rate Case to the
printer today - its due the 25th.
Darrell is quite pleased to have secured a favorable report from the Naval Examining Board that his sea sickness which incapacitates him from sea duty is the result of his typhoid fever at Norfolk. Prior to that time he had been to sea for seven years, without trouble - but since then he is chronically incapacitated.
Wrote a full letter to Secretary Baker today saying that on comparison of the printed copy with the original of Secretary Garrisons letter of Jan 15, 1915, I find

<table>
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<th>Diary 27, 1917</th>
<th>January 19-20</th>
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<td>his statement of error in the printed copy is correct &amp; expressed regret at offering him the defective printed copy as evidence of the fact that Garrison had recommended the transfer. I relied upon the printed copy without making the comparison. The House of Rep. passed the Public Buildings Bill today with our Juneau item for $300,000 for public building &amp; the grant of lands at Sitka for the pioneers home. Good.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>20th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admiral Dewey’s Funeral. Congress attended in a body. Also President, Cabinet, Supreme Court, etc. It was great military &amp; naval display – Services in Capital.</td>
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<th>Diary 27, 1917</th>
<th>January 20-21</th>
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<tr>
<td>Automobile and Carriage Pass card for the funeral of Admiral George Dewey.</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stormy day - finishing my brief in the Alaska Rate Case - am not proud of it but feel the facts in the case may get some results. The I.C.C. examiner has not given me a fair support or any assistance - I am disappointed in him.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Diary 27, 1917</th>
<th>January 22-23</th>
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<tr>
<td>Con. on Ter. has finally agreed on an adaptation of my Prohibition bill &amp; instructed me to reintroduce it - which I have done today. Am getting ready to move an amendment to the Rivers &amp; Harbors Bill</td>
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so as to include the Nome Harbor project. The bill contains an appropriation for my Apoon month item and as it may be years before another

-23rd -

The Post this morning has this:

[clipping]
Alaska District For Wickersham.

Seward, Alaska, Jan. 22.- Election returns from the Bristol Bay district, opened today in Valdez, gave James Wickersham, independent Republican candidate for reelection as delegate to Congress, a plurality of 34 over Charles Sulzer, Democrat.

That result in Bristol Bay is a surprise to me. I anticipated an adverse vote there & I am both surprised & pleased.

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<th>Diary 27, 1917</th>
<th>January 23</th>
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<td>Chas. E. Herron, Ed. Anchorage paper, has been after Richardson’s scalp - He has “just seen Senator Chamberlain who has agreed to demand Richardson’s return to his regiment. Herron has other strings to pull &amp; it looks as if we may give him a hard fight. Senator Kean, of Ind. listened to Mrs. W- and she gave him a copy of my last long letter to Richardson &amp; he promised to assist by requesting his return to his regiment. I intend to assist in other ways &amp; I hope we succeed. Sent copy of my Prohibition bill to Senator Chamberlain today &amp; asked him to introduce it in the Senate. He told Herron</td>
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<td>23</td>
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</table>

he would do it if I asked him - so I sent it over promptly.
I also introduced a Concurrent Resolution in the House today for the appointment of a Joint Senate & House Committee to go to Alaska this summer & inspect the Railroad, etc.

-24th –

Finished printing my brief on Alaska Rate Cases - printed at Byron S. Adams print shop. Will send by mail & file with I.C.C. tomorrow.
<table>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>Served &amp; filed Briefs I.C.C. The Rivers &amp; Harbors is before the House today. The bill was reported to the House before the War Dept. Report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>on the Nome Harbor came in. It is favorable - but a rule of the Com. not to permit any amendments by inserting new projects intervenes. However, I got a chance this afternoon just before adjournment &amp; moved an amendment to insert it. The House just then adjourned till in the morning - when I intend to press it. Darrell is having some trouble about his physical standing in the Navy, and it looks as if he may be retired because of (1) seasickness, (2) neurasthenia or nervous disability. I am in hopes he will, for he keeps worrying about it &amp; I hope he is retired.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 26</td>
<td>Telegram from Ed. C. Russell Ed. Juneau Dispatch today saying I have a majority over Sulzer of 23 votes, and also one from Dr. L.S. Kellar of Skagway congratulating me on my election. Also today I was able to get the house to include my Nome harbor project with an appropriation of $105,000, in the Rivers &amp; Harbors bill - which passed the House. I am greatly pleased at this result. The sun shone brightly &amp; it was a beautiful day! I feel like a woman who is safely delivered of her first baby -sore but happy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 27-31</td>
<td>Chairman Houston, Com Ter. reported favorably my bill H.R. 20361, see Report No. 1357; also H. Res. 468, for rule to put it through the House. Answering letters &amp; trying to catch up with general office work.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Same. The Seattle P.I. says my political opponents are typing to get the Alaska Canvassing Board to throw out enough precincts to elect Sulzer! -31st – Senate today passed the Alaska prohibition bill - Senator Jones put it through; See Cong. Record of this date.

Feb. 1st. Com. on Ter. had a meeting this morning & authorized Chairman Houston to take up Senator Jones Prohibition Bill for Alaska & get it passed in the House. Dan Sutherland & Jim Daly, members Territorial Legislature are here - and have signed a letter to Mr. Houston, Ch. H. R. Com. on Ter. asking him to pass Alaska Prohi. Bill. Mrs. Sutherland and the baby are with Dan. B.D. Stewart, Mayor of Juneau, also here - what for I do not know - but evidently on some Demo, political scheme.

Feb. 2. We got the Alaska Prohibition bill up today in the House & passed it - it had already passed the Senate & we put the Senate bill through without amendment and it has gone to the President for signature. I made a short speech in favor of the bill - see the Cong. Record of the date. Mrs. Sutherland & Debbie were present in the galleries & were greatly pleased at our success. The President is now threatening to break diplomatic relations with Germany because of the Note from Germany of yesterday threatening ruthless submarine war against shipping in the waters around England & in the Mediterranean -It looks as if it will involve us in the general European War. I am oppressed with the idea that he is mistaken in his attitude and that it is our duty to keep out of
the struggle. We will not lose either honor, or territory, or any other substantial thing of value if we continue to be neutral - while we stand to lose much if we go in.

3rd

Heard President Wilson read his notification to Congress saying he had broken off diplomatic relations with Germany & handed Von Bernstorff German ambassador his passports. It may mean war - I hope not.

Diary 27, 1917
February 4

People are not greatly excited today over Wilson’s break of yesterday with Germany. In my judgment he was diplomatically correct - but I fear results will flow from it which are liable to be far more serious than “watchful waiting”

Am cleaning out my office and getting ready to pack off to Alaska - the Democratic Canvassing Board in Alaska is acting slowly and doubtfully I fear they will throw out some precincts on technicalities & give the certificate of election to Sulzer - in that event I shall go home & not resist - but rest content even though I am elected by a majority vote.

Diary 27, 1917
February 5-6

Still at work clearing out my office - destroying useless letters. Attended House today hoping the Mt. McKinley Park bill would be reached on the Unanimous Consent Calendar - but we did not get to it.

Attended Republican caucus tonight - much talking and jockeying, but it finally passed a resolution for the appointment of a Com. of 27 to look after the organization of the House in the 65th Congress - & then adjourned.

-6th-

Wrote a strong letter to Sec. Lane today urging the government to buy the Tanana Valley Ry. also to run its line through the site of the Agri. College & Sch. of Mines at Fairbanks.

Diary 27, 1917
February 7-9

Cleaning up old letters etc. & getting my office in shape. Answering correspondence etc.

-8th-

Working in office. Letters & newspapers from
Juneau announce that my election, by a small vote, is now conceded, and that certificate of election will soon issue.

-9th-

Am in receipt of a letter from my 2nd Cousin, Mrs. Eliza Logue, of Harrodsburg, Ky, giving me a detailed history of my ancestors, who settled there about 1780!

She gives the following information about births & deaths of my Kentucky relations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diary 27, 1917</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Births</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampson Wickersham</td>
<td>Jany 20, 1751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Lesenger Wickersham, his wife</td>
<td>born Feb. 2, 1768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Their Children born:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Boone Wickersham</td>
<td>June 3, 1790</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Wickersham</td>
<td>Jany. 28, 1791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Wickersham</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 1792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Wickersham</td>
<td>Mch. 21, 1793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Wickersham</td>
<td>Oct. 29, 1795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampson Wickersham</td>
<td>Aug. 15, 1797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(died in infancy)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James L. Wickersham</td>
<td>Aug. 4, 1799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Wickersham</td>
<td>May 20, 1802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoebe Wickersham</td>
<td>April 13, 1807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampson Wickersham</td>
<td>Oct. 28, 1809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Wickersham</td>
<td>Jan. 7, 1812</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deaths</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 9-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sampson Wickersham</td>
<td>Aug. 1, 1798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(first above named infant)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elisabeth, Jr. (child)</td>
<td>April 15, 1808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Wickersham</td>
<td>1810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(no month or day given)</td>
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</table>

Sampson Wickersham | July 6, 1879 |
Jesse Wickersham | Sept. 12, 1887 |
Phoebe Wickersham Claunch | Jany 18, 1894 |

Rec'd, the following letter today:
United States Geographic Board, Wash.
Feb. 8, 1917

Dear Sir: Referring to your letter of January 29, 1917: At the meeting of the United States Geographic Board held on Feb 7th 1917, it approved the name Deborah for the mountain in Alaska. I return herewith as requested the report of the governor of Alaska, 1909, which you forwarded.

A beautiful name of a beautiful woman on a beautiful mountain.

-10-

Senator Lane, of Oregon, Ch. of Senate Com. on Fisheries, called me over this afternoon & read me a letter which he has received from President Wilson asking him to report an Alaska fish bill for the preservation of the fisheries & prevention of monopoly!

Lane gave me a copy of a Com. Print & asked me to correct it & report Monday morning.

Rec'd following telegram this a.m.:
Juneau, Alaska, Feb 10, 1917.

Jas. Wickersham, Washington D.C.

Governor Strong and Secretary Fox of Canvassing Board notify me that you win and nothing can now change result. Certificate will issue about fifteenth. Are waiting return Utica and another place.

Telegraphic reports give these for you but we win.
without them. Hell for Troy.
E. Valentine.
So that is the result? and it gives me the two additional years to finish up my work in. Good! The Nat. Geo. Mag. for Jan. 1917, just received has a beautiful descriptive article & photos about Mt McKinley Park - my picture of Mt McKinley.

**Diary 27, 1917**  
**February 11**

I am inclined to assist Senator Lane remodel the Fisheries bill so as to conserve the fish & prevent monopoly - and I have spent the day in my office remodeling a “Clerks Copy” of Senator Lanes modified form of the Alexander bill, which I defeated in the House on Dec. 13th last. I have cut out the clause taking all taxes away from the Territory & inserted clauses turning it into a leasing plan. In the morning I intend to get Congressman Wm Kent, of Cal. who is the House leader of the ultra conservationists go with me to Senator Lane & get him, if we can, to accept these modifications. If he will it will let the bill go without opposition.

**Diary 27, 1917**  
**February 12**

Delivered copy of Fisheries bill to Senator Lane today -but he did not seem to be as friendly to the proposed leasing of Alaska fisheries as I hoped he would be. If he breaks away and tries to put something else through in line with the Alexander bill I will fight it as hard as I can!

Judge Westcott, Atty. Genl. N.J. and the man who nominated Wilson in the Baltimore Convention & his son came into my office with Chas. E. Herron, of Alaska, this morning & we had a long talk about Alaska & its affairs. He is interested in Sec. Lane’s effort to give Alexander better administration of governmental affairs. - I gave him copy of Sec. Lanes “Red Tape” etc. & a copy of Agri. Reconnaissance.

**Diary 27, 1917**  
**February 13-15**

Working with correspondence etc.

**Diary 27, 1917**  
**February 14**

Senator Lane introduced the Alaska Fisheries Bill yesterday - the bill which he asked me to remodel. He introduced it just as I corrected it. I took copy of it over to Dr. E. Lester Jones, who is now the head of the Coast & Geo. Survey & asked him to examine it & told him if it could be passed substantially as I have prepared it - I would not object to its passage in the House. He is not favorable.

**Diary 27, 1917**  
**February 15-16**

me today & said he and Judge Alexander wanted to talk with me about the Alaska Fishery Bill, etc. Evidently the President is prodding them up to pass the Alexander bill & as they must make a showing.

I answered Judge Hardy’s suggestion by calling his attention to the Lane Bill of yesterday, & asking them (Hardy & Alexander) to examine it & say if they cannot support it. I do not intend to yield an inch on the Alexander Bill.

Cleaning up correspondence - throwing old letters etc. in waste basket & generally overhauling things in the office a long needed work.

**Diary 27, 1917**  
**February 17**

Same as yesterday. While in the House this afternoon Majority Leader, Hon Claude Kitchen, called me aside and asked me about the rider which the Seattle & Railroad lobbyists are attempting to get him to put on the Revenue Bill, to close the Port of Prince Rupert to halibut fisheries, etc.

I advised him not to allow it to be added & told him it was a transportation job - in the interest of Seattle railroads & the steamship lines running there from Alaska who wished to close the port of Prince Rupert to force the fish trade to Seattle etc. I told him it was necessary to keep Prince Rupert an open port for competitive reasons – in the
<table>
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| February 18| Debbie has had severe cold for days - but is getting over it nicely.  
Sunday - but I am cleaning out old letters etc. & getting office in order.  
Telegram this morning from Ketchikan asking me to support halibut amendment to the revenue bill.  
Only on Saturday I told Kitchen, Democratic floor leader, that I was opposed to it - but I have sent him a copy of the Ketchikan telegram & filed the original in the House as a petition - & referred it to him Com.  
I am opposed to the Halibut Amdt. for I do not see how it can do the fishermen in Alaska any good.  
It is being pushed hard by the lobbyists from Seattle - the R.R. transportation monopoly - lobby. |
| February 19-20| Have attended in the House all afternoon - the Mt. McKinley Park Bill passed the House - with but little trouble.  
I have been working up an assault on the appropriation carried in the Military Appropriation Bill of $500,000 for the Alaska Board of Road Commissioners - the bill is before the House today but we did not reach that item - but probably will tomorrow.  
I asked Cooper of Wis. to make the point of order against the item, but for good reasons he declined.  
I then asked Gordon, of Ohio, who looked into it carefully and then agreed to do it.  
I also carefully explained the situation to Bennett Clark, son of Speaker Clark, who is Parliamentary Clerk & he agreed with me that the objection was valid.  
Gordon will make the point of order as soon as the item is reached & if it is sustained the item will go out of the bill.  
It may, of course, be put in again in the Senate, but it may fail.  
I intend to put every obstacle in the way of the Board & hope finally to drive it out of existence.  
I feel fully justified in doing it, for it seems the only way to protect the "Alaska Fund" & prevent the Board from wasting it also.  
If it was not for that I would not object, through the whole control of affairs by the Board is so bad as to justify my harshest action. |
| February 21| And it happened just as we planned it.  
Gordon made the point of order, Stafford joined him in its support.  
The members of the Military Com. undertook to defend the item, but Bennett Clark had the Alaska Comp. Laws ready & Judge Saunders (in the Chair) ruled that the item was not authorized by any previous law - and out went the $500,000 appropriation for the support of Col. Richardson's wagon road work in Alaska.  
I sat quietly in my seat and heard the fight without saying a word.  
The Congressional Record of this date contains the record of the beginning of the end of the Alaska Bd. of Road Com - a proper end. |
| February 22-23| I introduced a bill today (after the defeat of the Richardson appro.) to authorize the legislature of Alaska to establish and maintain schools & to pay the cost out of Terry, funds.  
This power was withheld from the Leg's by an amendment put in the Senate by Senator Nelson to protect Col Richardson's funds - that is the "Alaska Fund" - of which Col. R. expects in his road work.  
Worked in office all day - getting correspondence up to date.  
Introduced new bill today about establishing”, maintaining schools - put in a repealing clause for I think it will help out.  
Com. meeting tomorrow to consider bill. |
| February 24| Had hearing this morning before Com. on Ter. |
trying to get approval my bills H.R. 21017 & 21020, Com favorable but sent bill to Sec. Interior for report which is satisfactory.

Doctor Jones & members of the Fisheries Bureau keep stirring up the Alexander - Fletcher bill. Notice of Hearing before Senate Com. on Fish, tomorrow.

-24th-

No hearings before senate Com. on Fish, this morning -got it postponed - I do not want hearing - I want to kill it by postponement - if possible.

Telegraphed Henry Ray last night to get in his reports promptly

for the Dept. is threatening him with indictment etc. for failing to report & pay up. He is back $5800 on the face of Dept. books.

-25-

Am beginning to hear from Alaska on bill to give Ter. Legislature power to establish and maintain schools – in support of my bills, H.R. 21017 & 21020. Telegram to me & to Senators & Members in support are coming in numbers.

Also Richardson is getting busy. He is evidently telegraphing to Alaska telling them I killed his appropriation & I am getting telegrams urging appropriation. Sure, his bunch of deadheads will starve, or worse, will have to go to work, if his appro. fails.

Col. Richardson’s friends are getting busy in Alaska and under direction of Major Davidson, of Alaska Board of Road Com’s are trying to induce Senator Chamberlain to put his appro, back in the bill.

I sent out telegrams to Nome, Fairbanks and Douglas stating fact that objection came from Stafford etc. as shown in the Cong. Record. In my judgment it is necessary to the freedom and development of Alaska that this appropriation be fully and finally beaten, so we may be rid of Richardson and his domination, & I intend to see that it is done be the consequences good or bad to me.

Had a long talk with Secretary Daniels & Admiral Palmer, at the Navy Dept. this forenoon about Darrell - & his seasickness. They will answer by letter!

President Wilson read message before Congress today asking for the use of the Army & the Navy & the Treasury, during the period till the next Congress! There is much opposition - looks like Extra Session.

Sec. Lane made favorable report on my bill H.R. 21020, giving the Legislature authority to establish and maintain schools in Alaska, etc.

Senator Jones introduced my School Bill in the Senate today - Our Com. Report No. 1560, printed & delivered to Jones - also Hearings.

The Sundry Civil Bill was up in House last night & today. I made a few desultory remarks - but things going all right & no contest.

Mary Ann Wellman (Mrs. Dornberg, of Nome) is at Keith’s in vaudeville, next week, and Constance Reed, in Henry VIII. at Belasco’s - Both Nome girls.

The Alaska School Bill passed the Senate - we have a meeting of House Com. on Ter. in the morning & will make provision to get the Senate Bill through House.

Snowing. Watched all day in House for chance to get Alaska School bill passed - but no opportunity.

Got our school bill up & passed the House at noon. Much noise & turmoil & the speaker was “pissed” & did not give any of us a chance to explain or make a speech - as soon as it could be found among the bills on the ‘Speakers Table’ - he put it through & passed it without paying any attention to any of us.
Glory be! I was glad to see it slide off the skids & become a law. When I returned to my office I found a telegram from Gov. Strong as follows:

"Juneau, Mar 1. Hon James Wickersham
Is there any hope of Congress taking action regarding
Alaska Schools this session if so of what nature
Wire reply. Strong, Governor.
and I sent him the following:

Diary 27, 1917
March 2

Hon. J.F.A. Strong, Governor of Alaska,
Juneau, Alaska, Congress just passed ten minutes ago Alaska School bill reading as follows:

A BILL
To authorize the Legislature of Alaska to establish and maintain schools, and for other purposes.
1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 That the Legislature of Alaska is hereby empowered to
4 establish and maintain schools for white and colored children
5 and children of mixed blood who lead a civilized
6 life in said
7 Territory and to make appropriations of
8 Territorial funds for
9 that purpose; and all laws or parts of laws in
10 conflict with
11 this Act are to that extent repealed.

Bill goes to President for approval which will be had before Sunday noon.

James Wickersham
Delegate from Alaska.

Recd, telegram from Senator Gaustad, Juneau, saying Canvassing Board would issue my certificate of election today if not restrained at suit brought by my opponents.

Diary 27, 1917
March 2-4

Hon. J.F.A. Strong, Governor of Alaska,
Juneau, Alaska, Congress just passed ten minutes ago Alaska School bill reading as follows:

A BILL
To authorize the Legislature of Alaska to establish and maintain schools, and for other purposes.
1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 That the Legislature of Alaska is hereby empowered to
4 establish and maintain schools for white and colored children
5 and children of mixed blood who lead a civilized
6 life in said
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Diary 27, 1917
March 2

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Diary 27, 1917
March 4

Recd, the following telegram

Juneau, Mar 3, 1917
Jas. Wickersham, Wash. D.C.
Yesterday Jennings issued alternative writ
mandamus in case Sulzer v board returnable today
directing board. Show case why they should not
issue certificate to Sulzer. Case postponed till
Tuesday. You are not made party, no action.
Board will make no defense. What action if any do
you advise your behalf.

Dan Sutherland
To that I replied by telegraph:

Washington, D.C., Mch 4, 1917
Hon. Dan Sutherland, Juneau, Alaska
This telegram strictly confidential. Let case against
canvassing board alone. I am not party do not
understand and might make mistake acting from
this distance. We must assume responsible
officials are honest and will follow the law.
Telegraph me results of Tuesday trial.

James Wickersham
Delegate from Alaska

Upon the receipt of Dan’s letter I began to pack & get ready to go home - for Jennings will issue the writ - the Board will give Sulzer Certificate & I will not contest further.

Finis.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>64TH CONG. - SOME RESULTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcoholic liquor, to prohibit sale or manufacture of, in. H.R. 20361; Mr. W-. Tabled Feb. 2, 1917. S. 7963 passed in lieu. Public Law No. 308.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For the protection of the fisheries of (H.R. 17499; Mr. Alexander) Union 360</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homestead Law, to amend, in its application to. (H.R. 228; Mr. W-. Public law No. 146.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juneau, authorizing issuance of bonds by , for school purposes. (S. 6839. Public law No. 265)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount McKinley National Park, to establish in. (S. 5716. passed House Feb. 19, 1917.) Providing for nonmineral entry of certain lands in (S. 1064) Union 355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools in, Authorizing the legislature to establish, etc. (M.R. 21020; Mr. W-, Tabled Mar. 2, 1917. S. 8317 passed ii lieu.)</td>
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