

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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TITLE: Fred Letter to Dearest Mother

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2013.020

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1917 November 22

Extent: 1 item

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Fred

Administrative/Biographical History:

The letter writer was resident in Anchorage, Alaska, during 1917 and seems to have been a regular traveler between Anchorage and Valdez, Alaska. He makes reference to earlier residence in Seward, Alaska, and refers to “this P.O. job;” he may have worked for the U.S. Postal Service delivering mail in the area. Nothing further was known about the letter writer at the time of processing.

Scope and Content Description:

Typescript letter, signed “Fred” and addressed to “My Dearest Mother & All at Home,” dated Anchorage, Alaska, November 22nd, 1917. The letter discusses entry of the United States into World War I and its effect on the Anchorage economy. He writes: “The war has caused the Gov. to about decide not to finish the Railroad into the Interior until after the war is over – they just figure on completing the road to the coal fields and connect up with Seward, if such is the case we will find business all in for a while.” Later he comments: “You can’t tell where the war will hit – we thought at one time the war would help this project, but politics and the great distance caused us to be forgotten down in Washington. Of course don’t say anything about our prospects as we are supposed to say that Government ownership is a big success and that we are all ‘doing fine’ under the system.”

Arrangement: Not applicable

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Original item in good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

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Preferred Citation:

Fred Letter to Dearest Mother, Anchorage Museum, B2013.020

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by Norman L. Wilson in May 1982.

RELATED MATERIALS

SUBJECTS

Alaska Railroad

World War, 1914-1918—Alaska

Anchorage (Alaska)

Guide written: March 12, 2013