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PRIBILOF ISLAND SURVEY REPORTS

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Attached are three reports submitted to Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug by the Survey Group which made a study of conditions on the Pribilof Islands of St. Paul and St. George in September 1949.

The main report OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS was signed by all members of the Group which was made up of Dr. Mark Dawber, Home Mission Council; Dr. Loren Oldroyd, University of Alaska; Albert E. Day, director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, and Dr. John R. Nichols, Commissioner Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

The second report PERSONAL REPORT OF DR. LOREN OLDROYD AND DR. MARK A. DAWBER.

The third SPECIAL REPORT ON DAIRY HERD is signed by Dr. Oldroyd.

Washington, October 28, 1949

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I N T R O D U C T I O N

In September 1949, the Secretary of the Interior designated a survey group, consisting of two Special Consultants and the heads of two of the Department's Bureaus, to make a factual study of the living conditions and human problems of the natives in the Pribilof Islands and various other native communities in the Bering Sea area. The survey group included Dr. Mark A. Dawber, Executive Secretary of the Home Missions Council of North America, Inc., who served as Chairman; L. T. Oldroyd, Director of Extension, University of Alaska; Albert M. Day, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service; and Dr. John R. Nichols, Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Serving as advisers to the Group were Don C. Foster, General Superintendent, Alaska Native Service; Lawrence N. Stevens, Assistant to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs; Clarence Olson, Manager of the Pribilof Islands, Fish and Wildlife Service; and Clarence Rhode, Regional Director for Alaska, Fish and Wildlife Service. Accompanying the Group as photographer was Emmet Hadden of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Departmental members of the Group, the advisers, and photographer assembled at Mt. McKinley National Park at the conclusion of the meeting of the Department's Alaska Field Committee on September 21-23. En route from the National Park to Rome, they stopped overnight at McGrath where some natives reside, and the following day at the native village of Shegeluk on the Innoko River, where they inspected the Alaska Native Service day school and native living conditions.

The Departmental members were joined by Dr. Dawber and Director Oldroyd in Nome, where the Group was scheduled to board the Bureau of Indian Affairs vessel NORTH STAR which was to take them to various islands in the Bering Sea. While waiting for the NORTH STAR, the Group flew to the native village of Kotzebue, north of the Arctic Circle, where they visited the Alaska Native Service hospital and day school, and surveyed general living conditions in the village. While in Nome, the Group also had ample opportunity to see social and economic conditions of the natives in and around that city, including the King Island Eskimos, who were on their annual visit to Rome for the purpose of carving and selling ivory products. Meetings were held in Rome with the United States Attorney, the Mayor, members of the City Council, members of the School Board, and the Chamber of Commerce. Three Indian Service members made a one day trip from Nome to visit White Mountain Boarding School of the Alaska Native Service.

After the group had been in Rome for four days, it was decided to change the schedule since the NORTH STAR had been considerably delayed by ice and storms. The Group flew to Bethel, from where side trips were made to Nunivak Island and Hooper Bay. Another attempt was made to visit other Bering Sea Islands by arranging to board the Fish and Wildlife Service vessel FS-244, but this arrangement was also nullified, first by engine trouble and later by bad weather. On October 2, the Group flew to St. Paul Island in the Pribilofs, where it stayed for a week. On October 9, they returned by air to Anchorage, where they disbanded. The reports which follow were prepared by the Group during the stay on St. Paul Island.

St. Paul Island, Alaska October 8, 1949

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In the conduct of the study of the welfare and living conditions of the natives of the Bering Sea area the group has been impressed by the peculiar and unusual obligation imposed by law upon the Secretary of the Interior in the administration of the Pribilof Islands. Here, on the two tiny islands of St. Paul and St. George about 80 percent of all the existing fur seals in the world make their summer homes and then return to the icy waters of the Pacific ocean.

The herd through unbridled exploitation was reduced from an estimated 4,000,000 animals prior to Russian occupation to a low of 130,000 when an international convention between Russia, Japan, Great Britain and the United States outlawed the destructive practice of killing at sea, and international protection was afforded by a treaty signed in 1911. The U. S. Government was given the responsibility for the management of the herd which has since that time been built back to an estimated number approaching 3,500,000 animals.

The International situation changed at the beginning of the recent war, and a new agreement was reached in 1942 which retains management of the herd by the United States Government, but provides that Canada shall receive 20% of the skins taken on the Pribilof Islands, the remainder to be retained by the United States. About 65,000 surplus animals are killed each year, the U. S. skins being processed, tanned, and dyed in St. Louis, Missouri, by the Fouke Fur Co. then sold at public auction with the net proceeds deposited in the U. S. Treasury. In 1948 the cash income amounted to \$1,345,000 and since 1910 the proceeds from the sale of fur seal and fox skins and by-products such as meal and oil, have amounted to more than \$16,000,000. The original purchase price for all Alaska was \$7,500,000.

Following the exchange of notes between the Canadian Minister and the Secretary of State in 1942 looking toward a revision of earlier treaty obligations, the President of the United States signed a new Alaska Fur-seal Law on February 26, 1944, giving effect to the provisional agreement. This act brings together all previous legislation directly affecting the Pribilof Island fur-seal herd.

It is entitled:

"THE FUR SEAL ACT OF FEB. 26, 1944"

An Act to give effect to the Provisional Fur Seal Agreement of-1942 between the United States of America and Canada: to protect the fur seals of the Pribilof Islands; and for other purposes."

The act contains 18 separate sections dealing with the various phases of managing this valuable natural resource, but two sections are of particular interest to this commission in its study of the native problems of the Bering Sea area. These are:

SEC. 7. Whenever seals are killed and seal skins taken on any of the Pribilof Islands, the native inhabitants of the islands shall be employed in such killing and in curing the skins taken, and shall receive for their labor fair compensation to be fixed from time to time by the Secretary, who shall have the authority to prescribe the manner in which such compensation shall be paid to the natives or expended or otherwise used on their behalf and for their benefit.

SEC. 8. The Secretary shall have authority to establish and maintain depots for provisions and supplies on the Pribilof Islands

and to provide for the transportation of such provisions and supplies from the mainland of the United States to the islands by the charter of private vessels or by the use of public vessels of the United States which may be under his control or which may be placed at his disposal by the President: and he likewise shall have authority to furnish food, shelter, fuel, clothing, and other necessities of life to the native inhabitants of the Pribilof Islands and to provide for their comfort, maintenance, education, and protection.

Thus these natives are not only guaranteed by federal law priority in the "killing and curing of the skins taken" but the Secretary of the Interior is also authorized to "furnish food, shelter, fuel, clothing, and other necessities of life to the native inhabitants of the Pribilof Islands and to provide for their comfort, maintenance, education and protection".

Keeping in mind the unusual circumstances under which the Fish and Wildlife Service must operate to carry out the provision of Federal law, the special survey group after careful study and observations and following numerous discussions with the leaders of the comity of St. Paul and the local administrators find that:

1. Because of the close relationship of these natives to the management of the highly valuable fur seal resource, they enjoy an economic security on a par with the highest income group of any native people in all Alaska. There are no depressions nor "hard times" here.

2. Evidence of their well being is amply demonstrated by the general weights and physical conditions of adults and children alike. While many other native villages of the Bering Sea area have a most serious tuberculosis problem St. Paul Island has only one active case out of a population of 335. In recent years, some half dozen other cases have been removed from the Island for treatment in Alaska Native Service hospitals *on the* mainland., Of even greater significance we are reliably informed that in every Aleut community in Alaska except St. Paul and St. George, the population is declining. Here, it has greatly increased during the past decade.

3. The school systems on both islands now compare favorably with those in the best native communities in Alaska. To insure a continued high standard and greater improvement, the Fish and Wildlife Service has an agreement with the Territorial Commissioner of Education for the review of school standards and for other aid in school matters. The teachers have a wholesome interest in the pupils and encourage them to attend outside schools for the high school and college grades.

4. Hospitals and medical facilities are adequate, and are furnished free by the government. The group had the unusual experience of visiting a 10 bed hospital in St. Paul with not a single patient. An agreement between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Alaska Department of Health affords highly competent advice and assistance in all health matters.

5. Housing on both St. Paul and St. George Islands is far superior to that in any other native community in Alaska, with the possible exception of Hoonah and Metlakatla in Southeastern Alaska. It is also better than that found in many white communities in Alaska. This is due to the provision of law which provides that the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to furnish "food, shelter, fuel, clothing, and other necessities of life to the native inhabitants", where the natives in other communities have not had such federal assistance. The natives on the Pribilofs do provide furnishings and plumbing for their homes.

6. The group can find absolutely no basis for the charge that the native Aleuts of the Pribilof Islands are held in "slavery", "bondage", or "peonage". Because of the difficulty of securing free transportation from the islands, there is a mistaken impression that the natives are not free to come and go as they please.

7. Under the present system of compensation for services performed on this special government reservation, it can well be said that these people are of special interest to the government. The system of payment in wages since the inception of sealing operations under the treaty, has furnished, as a part of the compensation, housing, food, fuel, electricity, some clothing and other supplies, medical and dental attention, hospitalization, sick leave, annual leave, National plus $4\frac{1}{2}$ special church holidays, and disability and retirement benefits.

8. Cash compensation, in addition to the government issues, is paid in accordance with the numbers of seal and fox skins taken from the islands annually. On the basis of the pelts taken in 1949, 1st class sealers received \$922.80; 2nd class sealers \$738.00; 3rd class sealers \$531.60; 4th class sealers \$356.40 and 5th class sealers \$265.20. All classes reflect the relative responsibilities of the jobs performed, except that absentees are lowered in class during a given year in accordance with the working time lost. During seasons of the year when there are no sealing operation, the employees work on repairs to the roads to the killing grounds, construction, and maintenance of the village and various government installations on the islands.

9. While the long established system of furnishing the residents with government issues of the necessities of life, plus the cash division, has resulted in a healthy and well fed people, it has tended to discourage individual initiative, both economically and socially.

10. There is still evident some resentment and bitterness over the abrupt and disastrous removal by the Army of the people of the Pribilof s at the beginning of the late war to prevent their possible capture by the Japanese. They were all loaded on an Army transport and were many miles from the islands when the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service was notified and asked to designate their destination. Relocating two communities of more than 500 men, women and children without supplies on such abrupt notice was no simple task. They were finally

disembarked at **Funter** Bay near Juneau, Alaska, where an abandoned fish cannery and mine became their temporary home. The sufferings, **depriva-**tion and uncertainties that resulted from this war time **tragedy** have not been forgotten, for which no one can blame them.

11. There **is in** St. Paul, as well as in St. George, a **Russion** Orthodox Church (apparently not under Communist domination), into which all native members of the community are born, The priest is paid from native canteen funds **and** each member of the native community contributes annually to the church building fund, deposited in a bank in Seattle, Washington. The group foresees some time in the future when other **reli-**gious missionary groups may make application to serve on the **Pribilofs**, in which case the way must be made administratively clear for them to furnish additional religious and social leadership among the natives.

12. We are forced to the conclusion that much of the criticism of the administration of the Pribilof Islands by the Fish and Wildlife Service **is** unjust, unwarranted, and without foundation in fact. Some of it may have been valid in the past, but it is not so at **present**. The bald facts remain that there are not now and **never** have been any destitute families, any neglected welfare cases, any crime or liquor problem (with the exception of home brew). There is no necessity for policemen or jail. **No** one draws **unemployment** compensation, because all able bodied men are **working**.

13. The most serious problems of native welfare **and need for** assistance in the Bering Sea area **is not on the Pribilof Islands.** Rather it is

elsewhere. On all sides -- on the mainland, the Aleutian chain, Nunivak Island, Nome and Kotzebue, poverty, disease and want are evident in striking contrast to the conditions on St. Paul and St. George Islands. In the lower Yukon-Kuskukwim area, covering an expanse of tundra the size of the state of Pennsylvania, there is only one Alaska Native Service hospital. This is a modern 43 bed structure located at Bethel. Additional quarters will soon provide another 26 beds. This hospital must accommodate the natives from 72 villages and a total population of some 7000. The doctor in charge estimated the tuberculosis incidence as ranging from 15 to 33 percent in the various communities. Almost the sole cash income of these people comes from trapping and it was locally estimated that this would average about \$400 per year per trapper. Some additional wages are earned by those who work in the Bristol Bay fishery, but even this, a total income exceeding \$2000 per year is out of the ordinary.

A similar standard of living is found in the Nome and Kotzebue areas, as well as on Nunivak Island. The bulk of these people obtain their meats by killing seals, some walrus, and reindeer, caribou, waterfowl, and use fish extensively for both human consumption and for dog food.

Housing in most instances in this vast region still consists of small cabins and underground barabaras, where crowded conditions and unbalanced diets lead to tuberculosis, skin diseases and ailments of the eyes.

Along the Aleutian chain, the natives are on the decline, through disease and impoverishment, much of it brought on by the unbridled and excessive use of liquor.

These people should receive the most active sympathy and aid of those who wish to improve the status of the natives in Alaska.

The Alaska Native Service, the Alaska Department of Health, and the Territorial Department of Education are all struggling to improve these conditions, but with existing budgets, progress is painfully slow.

The Survey group recommends, with reference to the Pribilof Islands, that:

1. The proposed ~~Corporate Charter~~ of the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, and the related Constitution and By-laws, under the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, be voted upon and accepted by the residents of St. Paul at an early date. This action would give the people of the village a greater degree of responsibility in the administration of community affairs. The charter and by-laws were approved by Secretary Krug on September 14, 1949, and await only acceptance by the qualified voters of St. Paul to become operative. Some 200 such charters in the States and 70 in Alaska have already been approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and such adoption here will extend the benefits of this Act to St. Paul. St. George has not petitioned for such a charter but if one is later requested, it should receive careful consideration.

2. The Fish and Wildlife Service expedite the long-discussed change from the present system of government issues plus compensation to a plan of total compensation for services rendered. This, in our opinion would eliminate much of the recurring dissatisfaction among the natives over low wage scales. They are now inclined to consider the annual cash bonus as the only compensation they receive, while they ignore the value of the supplies and services furnished by the government.
3. The Fish and Wildlife Service should employ a trained agricultural agent to supervise the handling of the two fine dairy herds on St. Paul and St. George Islands. These herds are not now being given the attention they deserve to accomplish the original aim of supplying fresh milk and beef for the island communities. It is also our opinion that much more could be done in raising additional vegetables, poultry, and domestic rabbits if funds were secured to employ a competent agricultural supervisor. It would also be desirable to provide the services of a Home Demonstration Agent to work with home makers and 4-H Clubs. Further effort should be made to encourage the natives to secure training along these lines and return to the village.
4. Every effort should be made to restore the reindeer herd to the numbers present before the Islands were occupied by the military during the recent war.
5. Greater consideration should be given to the training of the natives for some of the positions now filled by white employees.

6. It should be a continuing policy of the Fish and Wildlife Service that students be encouraged to secure educational benefits beyond those now furnished on the Islands. Some should be encouraged to settle down elsewhere and others, who have received higher educations, should be encouraged to return for employment here. Veterans should be encouraged to take advantage of the so-called G.I. Bill of Rights before the opportunity expires.

7. A library should be provided for use of both the school and the community and some person should be assigned to its care.

8. A small social room where light refreshments could be served might well be provided, possibly in connection with the canteen, where the people could gather whenever they desire social conversation and refreshments.

9. Every effort should be made to provide better social relations between the native and non-native residents of the Islands.

10. The airplane landing strip on St. Paul Island should be widened, enlarged and otherwise improved to meet CAA standards. Otherwise the recently established post office will be of little benefit, since the CAA has condemned its use by contract carriers after December 1, 1949.

11. The Congress should provide increased appropriations to further rehabilitate the Pribilof Islands communities which still show many scars of military occupation, and to provide additional housing for a growing population. In particular, a fire protection system is sorely needed, as are improvements in the water and sewer lines.

With reference to the situation in other native communities in the Bering Sea area the group recommends that:

1. Greater provision should be made for the improvement of the general living conditions of the natives. This would involve housing, community development, social and recreational life, education, health and economic opportunities. The 6 year program as recommended by the Alaska Committee of the Department of the Interior if implemented by adequate Congressional appropriations, would go far toward solving these problems.
2. Since the economic welfare of the natives of this general area is in large part dependent upon fish, fur, and other forms of wildlife, every effort should be made by teachers, game officials and missionaries to stress the importance of the proper management, use and protection of wildlife for the benefit of not only the present populations, but also of future generations.
3. The facts reveal that the most deplorable conditions among the natives exist in those communities and villages where liquor is available. This places upon those communities and their governing officials a great responsibility in controlling the sale of liquor and the enforcement of laws that will prevent the unfortunate conditions that result from the excessive use of liquor. This also involves the obligation on the part of the Territory to enforce all existing liquor laws which is not now being done.

4. The group urges continuing and accelerated support for the programs of the Alaska Native Service, The Alaska Department of Health, the Territorial Commission of Education and all other groups and organizations, public and private, that are striving to improve the standards of living for the native peoples who constitutes about one third of the total population of the Territory.

Mark A. Dawber
CHAIRMAN

Lorin T. Oldroyd

John R. Nulok

Allert M. Day

PERSONAL REPORT OF LOREN OLDROYD AND MARK A. DAWBER

While we join with the other members of the Survey Group appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to study conditions among natives in Alaska and with particular concern for the Pribilof Islands we feel it necessary to present this separate report so that there may be no charge of our being in any way limited or influenced by the other members of the commission or its consultants who are employed officials of the government or who are in any way involved in the present administration of Alaska. This is not a minority report, because we are in the main or full agreement with the report of the commission.

First we would like to say that there has been no attempt made to curb criticism of the administration but on the contrary a desire expressed that every aspect of criticism should be given full consideration and also' we believe a desire to have any counsel and advice that will in any way improve conditions.

We completed our visit to the Pribilofs after a most interesting trip which has included visits to many other sections of Alaska. This has included Rome, Kotzebue, Bethel, Nunivak Island, and other native villages in the territory. This has made it possible for us to get a fairly well-balanced appraisal of conditions on St. Paul Island as compared with these other native communities.

On St. Paul Island we met with the representatives of the various native organizations and interests with the doctors, teachers, nurse and other officials employed by the government. We have held several meetings with the community council and also had many conversations with individual natives. There has been full free discussion of all matters pertaining to life on St. Paul Island also as to the various aspects of administration.

First we would like to comment on the several major criticisms that have been made by certain individuals, also by interested agencies and that have appeared from time to time in the daily press. While many of these charges were doubtless true at the time they were made they are not true today. Let us look at a few of them:

1. The charge of "virtual slavery". There is no valid basis for that statement. While there are certain restrictions that are inevitable in this kind of community where the economy is dependent upon sealing, which is an industry under government administration, the natives are free to do what they desire so far as their general living is concerned.

2. The charge has also been made that the natives have no voice in the matter of local government. There is a community council composed entirely of natives. A charter has just been drawn and is under consideration that will provide for greater participation and responsibility for community life.

3. A further charge is made that the native are not allowed to engage in any private enterprise. This is not wholly true. There are some things done on a private enterprise basis. There is also a canteen that is operated on a cooperative basis. But in a community where the economy is of the type such as exists here there is not much outlet for private enterprise. Moreover the system that is in operation in which the government is held responsible to feed, clothe, and house the natives is one that does not leave much for private enterprise to do. This system should be changed, but until recently the natives were not willing to have any change made,

4. Another criticism is that the food provided by the government is not sufficient or of the kind necessary for a balanced diet. An analysis of the amount and kind of food provided will prove that there is sufficient food provided. The

very excellent health conditions is a sufficient testimony. Also this is the only group of Aleuts that is increasing in population. Moreover the majority of the natives are overweight. There is need for a greater variety of food, also for more fresh meat. This also should be stated, that in contrast with the food that is served in the mess hall to government employees, the food served to the natives is limited. Too much food is served in the mess hall and the natives see this and there is a just basis for complaint by reasons of this contrast.

5. The charge has been made that the natives are unduly punished for misdemeanors and offenses. This charge is made by a few individuals who have been reduced in class because they absented themselves from the island for long periods of time. The only way in which there could be deductions made in their compensation because of these absences was to reduce them in class. As soon as they returned and justified their former status they were returned to their class.

6. Complaints have been made regarding sanitary facilities. There is need for improvement, but the problem is that of insufficient appropriations to provide the same. This should be given careful consideration.

7. EDUCATION: Whatever may have been the situation in the past the present school program is very satisfactory. There are four teachers for about 91 children. The teachers are of fine quality and interested in their pupils. The text books are new and compare favorably with the best schools of this type in the territory. There is also a good supply of work books. The building is adequate and further alterations are being made that will provide for more activities along lines of vocational training. Children go as far as the eighth grade and are then encouraged to go to high school in communities off the island such as Sitka.

8. POST OFFICE: Complaints have been registered because a native was not appointed as Postmaster. When the Post Office was established it was understood that as soon as a native was sufficiently experienced that they would be appointed. A non-native (one of the teachers) was appointed and a native was appointed as assistant to get the experience. This native is now in charge of the Post Office.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

We are convinced that all things considered the natives on St. Paul Island are in much better condition than any other natives in Alaska, unless it should be at Metlakatla. In fact the homes and the community life would put to shame many white communities.

We feel that as soon as possible the present system of subsidies should be removed. That there should be wages and compensation in cash and that the people should pay in cash for the necessities of life. At first this would doubtless work hardship on some people and due care should be taken to provide for the aged and the children. But the only way to develop a truly democratic life will be to put the natives on a self-supporting, self-respecting basis.

There should be greater recognition of the native participation in the affairs of the community such as school, housing, roads, sanitary facilities, et cetera.

There is also need for some place being provided where they could go whenever they desire for social fellowship and refreshments.

Many of the old buildings are in need of repairs and remodeling. The majority of the buildings need painting.

We feel that a word is necessary regarding some of the other areas we visited. Nome, Kotzebue, Nunivak Island, Bethel, Hooper Bay, and other villages. The

conditions of the natives in these communities is to say the least deplorable. While there are some worthy efforts being put forth such as hospitals, schools, etc. these are insufficient to meet the demands.

Wherever liquor is available there we find the most tragic conditions and of course the largest percentage of disease and crime. The sorry state of the mainland Eskimo is a most urgent demand, and it should command the immediate concern of those responsible for the administration of this service.

We appreciate the difficulty that confronts those who are responsible for the territorial and local administration, and know of their interest and desire to do something and perhaps the difficulty was with Congress and insufficient appropriations? but the fact remains that someone must face the responsibility to remedy the situation.

The question of the future administration of the islands is one that we feel we should make some observations upon. All things considered we believe that the Fish and Wildlife Service had done a good job. That there has been cause for criticism of the previous administration goes without question but so far as the present administration is concerned there is reason to be well satisfied. We think it would be a mistake to divide the administration. That with the Alaska Native Service and other Federal and Territorial agencies and the University of Alaska cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service that a fully satisfactory program of administration along all lines can be worked out. There is of course need for larger appropriation to make possible some of the needed service; more homes should be built to enable the young people, to get married and settle down in the community.

Mark A. Dawber

MARK A. DAWBER

Executive Secretary Home Missions

Lorin T. Oldroyd

LORIN T. OLDROYD

Director, Extension Service
University of Alaska

SPECIAL REPORT ON DAIRY HERD

The dairy herd at St. Paul now consists of some thirty four head of mixed cattle. There is also a small herd of dairy cattle at St. George. Under careful management these two herds of dairy cattle would supply sufficient milk for all people now residing on the two islands. There would be one cow for about every ten people which is above the average in dairy communities.

The present barn at St. Paul is in fair condition and with the expenditure of a few thousand dollars it could be modernized and would provide for the care of twenty or twenty five producing cows. It would be essential to improve the milk room by providing a steam boiler and pasturizer. A milking machine would make the operation of the dairy plant much more efficient.

The dairy cattle on the Pribilof Islands graze on native pastures for five or six months during the year and at the present time are all in good flesh. Several steers are fat and ready for the market as beef. During the winter months it is necessary to have hay and grain in order to keep the cows in good production. This must be shipped from the states. However, seal meal from the local reduction plant could be profitably used as a source of protein, which is one of the high cost items in the dairy ration. This would decrease the cost of producing milk both at St. Paul and St. George.

We strongly urge that sufficient funds be provided so that a modern dairy plant can be maintained at St. Paul and St. George which would provide an adequate milk supply for the inhabitants of these islands.

THE PRODUCTION OF BEEF

It would seem practical to produce all of the beef needed by the people living in the Pribilof Islands. Good pasture is available for five or six months during

the year and use could be made of seal meal as the protein ration for fattening beef cattle. The temperature seldom gets below freezing so that it would not be necessary to supply expensive shelter for animals not being used to produce milk. Milking short horn or Red Danish cattle would provide a source of Beef as well as furnish sufficient milk for the people.

It would likely be possible to secure foundation stock of the Danish Red Cattle from the Dairy Division of the United States Department of Agriculture. Either of these two breeds of cattle could be introduced by purchasing calves for boys and girls in 4-H Club work. It would only take a few years until the present herds could be changed over to these new breeds of dual purpose cattle.

POULTRY

A number of families at St. Paul now keep small flocks of poultry and it would seem practical for nearly every family to produce their own eggs and poultry for meat. Here again the use of seal meal could be made use of in reducing the cost of producing eggs. It would be practical to keep a comity flock of some 1,000 laying hens and thus produce sufficient eggs to supply the local demand. Baby chicks could be brought in by air from Seattle which would make it unnecessary to have a hatchery on the island.

The production of baby chicks would make desirable projects for boys and girls in 4-H club work.

RABBITS

The production of rabbits as a source of fresh meat would be practical as Part of the feed necessary for rabbits could be obtained from pasture in the summer time. Rabbits would make good project work for boys and girls in 4-3 Club work.

GARDENING

Gardening at St. Paul might be somewhat difficult because of low temperatures during the growing season. Some garden vegetables are now being produced and it is likely that by using improved methods of handling the soil gardening could be extended. Seal meal would provide the best kind of a complete fertilizer for vegetables. The greenhouse which is now in fair condition could be utilized to produce early plants for the comity. It could also be used for the production of tomatoes and cucumbers.

AGRICULTURAL SUPERVISOR

We recommend the employment of an agricultural supervisor who would have charge of the dairy herd and other agricultural projects on the Fribilof Islands. He might also have charge of the Reindeer herd. A well trained practical man would be able to train native boys on the island to carry on these projects. 4-H Club work would become an important part of the agricultural work.

HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT

We recommend the employment of a Home Demonstration Agent who would work with home makers and girls in 4-R Club work.

Lorin T. Oldroyd

LORIN T. OLDROYD, Director,
Extension Service, University of Ala&a