

**Guide to the
Joe Harnish Papers,
1902-1944 [bulk dates 1928-1944]**

Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum,
Nome, Alaska

Accession Number	2013.8
Acquisition Information	Gift of Ruth Bradshaw, 2013.
Extent	3.5 linear feet (4 legal size document boxes, 2 postcard boxes, 1 map cabinet folder)
Restrictions	None.
Processed by	Amanda Demeter, May 2016. Latest revision May 6, 2016.

Biographical Note

Joe Harnish was born around 1907. He met Georgia “Tippy” Tipton in 1933 and they were married in 1934. Tippy was a nurse and worked for an x-ray specialist. They had one daughter, Ruth, who was born in 1939 in Nome.

From 1928 to 1930, Harnish was a freight clerk for the American Mail Line on the S.S. *President Jefferson*, traveling on their Trans-Pacific Route. He then relocated to Seattle in 1930 and served as a purser for the Alaska Steamship Company’s Bering Sea and Arctic Route, traveling on various ships to and from Alaska from 1930 to 1940. In 1936, he took on duties as the company’s agent in Nome as well, where they moved in May of that year. In 1940 the Harnish family returned again to Seattle, Washington, following the birth of their daughter. Over the following years Harnish worked primarily as a purchasing agent for various companies.

An avid amateur photographer, Harnish took hundreds of photos of the scenery and people of Alaska. According to his daughter Ruth, Harnish took the pictures on his box camera, then developed and printed them in his home on Front Street.

Joe died in 1995 at age 88 in Kirkland, Washington.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection is comprised of materials relating to Harnish's work in shipping with the American Mail Line and the Alaska Steamship Company, centering around his travel in Alaska. Materials include a number of log books which feature stats on individual ships, requirements of different ports, tariff information, and detailed tracking of purchases and a photocopy of Harnish's daily diary from his time as agent in Nome for the Alaska Steamship Co. While he traveled Harnish took many photographs of the Alaskan countryside and people, which he developed and printed himself. These images are meticulously numbered with prints arranged in eleven albums and most of the negatives in five Kodak negative albums. Images include scenes throughout Alaska featuring industries such as whaling, mining with dredges and fields, many for the U.S. Smelting, Refining & Mining Co., aviation; numerous shipboard views primarily from the *Derblay* of coastline, shots of various boats and ships; views of cargo on ship, lightering to shore, unloading cargo at docks, on shore, in villages, often by hand; Alaska native villages, dwellings, men, children; group and individual shots of various identified men and women, including young men with shooting trophies, ships' captains and crews, hunting and fishing trophy shots; town and village views of native dwellings, post offices, and other businesses and buildings; scenic views of sea ice and Bering Sea, islands, mountains and volcano peaks, rivers and countryside; numerous views of Nome including post-fire waterfront, notable buildings such as the Maynard Columbus Hospital, Lomen warehouses and offices, the Polet store, Sesnon dock, events such as cornerstone-laying ceremonies of buildings, dog teams on the sea ice, King Island natives landing boats on the beach, and other scenes; reindeer and fox farms. Locations pictured include Akutan, Nome, Kotzebue, Shishmaref, Deering, Golovin, St. Michael, Unalakleet, Gambell, Savoonga, Kivalina, Kiwalik, Wales, Diomedede, Kanaga Island, Nikolski, and other Aleutian Island villages, Ketchikan, Juneau, Teller, Bristol Bay, Sitka, Hoonah, Inian Islands, Candle, King Island, Solomon, Ruby, Dutch Harbor, Seldovia, Fairbanks, Sledge Island (Alaska); Nanaimo (British Columbia); Seattle, Lake Crescent, Snohomish, Bremerton, and other locations in western Washington. A few photographs were enlarged and framed, also presumably printed by Harnish himself. Finally, the papers include a collection of USGS publications containing a large number of geological survey maps of Alaska.

Arrangement

Series 1, Purser's Papers, contains log books, a photocopy of his daily diary, and other documents compiled by Harnish in his duties as a freight clerk, purser, and agent. Arranged chronologically.

Series 2, Photographs, contains negative albums and photograph albums with numbered and briefly described photographs. The negatives have been removed from the albums for

preservation but albums have been retained for their identifying information and artifactual value. Photographs in albums are numbered and correspond with the numbered negatives. The photos are not always in sequence in the albums, but the number ranges are provided in the descriptions below. These materials have been retained in Harnish's order. Also includes a set of seven framed photographs.

Series 3, Publications, contains primarily government publications by the U. S. Geological Survey on mineral deposits and geological characteristics of Alaska. Arranged by sponsoring agency and bulletin number (released chronologically). Also includes a few miscellaneous publications on other Alaska subjects.

Collection Contents

Series 1: Purser's Papers

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder/Item</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	1	<p>Unbound log book, ca. 1928-1935</p> <p>Scope and content: Log begins with notes on sea voyages by the S.S. <i>President Jefferson</i>, dating the log to Harnish's time with the American Mail Line. Content includes ports visited and nautical miles traveled, ship's officers and crews, travel dates, general notes. Remainder of log includes staff lists of the Alaska Steamship Company, information on various ports including documentation requirements and staff, distances between Alaska destinations, stats on ships in the company's line, and a list of Harnish's personal book collection.</p>
1	2	<p>"Purser's Working Papers," Alaska Steamship Company Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean Route, 1932 June 29</p> <p>Scope and content: Typescript booklet written by Joe Harnish when he was purser for the S.S. <i>Derblay</i> of the Alaska Steamship Company. Constructed from scrap company letterhead, the booklet documents the various paperwork required for the twelfth voyage of the <i>Derblay</i> to Alaskan ports and reports on the transactions of the trip.</p>
1	3	<p>Log book, ca. 1936-1938</p> <p>Scope and content: Log from Harnish's time with the Alaska Steamship Company, including stats on ships arranged alphabetically by ship name, distance charts and latitude and longitude for destinations, travel schedules, detailed lists of tariff and freight costs.</p>
1	4	<p>Diary (photocopy), 1936-1940</p> <p>Scope and content: Multiyear diary with brief notes on daily activities by Harnish. Spans his years in Nome as the Alaska Steamship Company agent and features a mix of personal and professional notes, including notes on social activities, weather, movement of ships, construction and work on home.</p> <p>Additional note: Each page is titled at the top with the date and includes five sections for notes. These sections feature notes from that date each year, e.g. notes from January 3 of 1936, 1937, 1938, and 1939 are all on the same page. To read consecutive entries for a single year, the notes should be read across the same sections on each page, not top to bottom.</p>

1 5 Purchase log book, ca. 1941-1944

Scope and content: Log documents purchases made by Harnish for ships, including a wide range of items from cleaning supplies such as soap and brooms; entertainment such as playing cards; and food from staples such as flour, meat and fish, canned fruits and vegetables, jam, and cheese to candy bars, cocoa, and more unusual and specialty items like powdered whole eggs. Also includes a few notes on tariffs. Based on the few dates, this log was likely from Harnish's work with the Anderson Brothers Supply Company of Alaska, for which he was the Seattle agent.

Series 2: Photographs

Box Folder/Item Contents

Framed photographs

Scope and content: Seven framed 8x10 in. black and white photographs. These photos are presumably enlargements of Harnish's photos based on notes at the time of their donation to the collection. Although several include a label on the reverse for Frank Jacobs, Seattle photographer, artist, and framer, it is likely Jacobs is credited for the framing.

2	1	2013.8.1 - Three Alaska native men in a boat disembarking in the shallow water at Shishmaref (enlargement and crop of image #476), 1934
2	2	2013.8.2 – Anchored native boat <i>Shoniktuok</i> with two men on deck and one on shore at Kotzebue (enlargement of image #497), 1934
2	3	2013.8.3 - Tinted photo of native dwelling in Gambell (enlargement of image #91), 1931
2	4	2013.8.4 - Group photo of nine Kotzebue Sound native men on board the S.S. <i>Derblay</i> (enlargement of image #121), 1931
2	5	2013.8.5 - Tinted photo of two Alaska native women and two children in cloth parkas, likely Savoonga, ca. 1932
2	6	2013.8.6 - Bird's-eye view of Juneau waterfront with mine on hillside and mountains in distance (enlargement of image #601), 1935
2	7	2013.8.7 - Waterfront view of Chicagof Mine with forest and mountains in background (enlargement of image #539), 1935

Photograph albums

- 3 1 Album 1: Photos 1-102, 1930-1931
Scope and content: Scenes throughout Alaska featuring industries such as whaling in Akutan, sluice mining in Nome; numerous shipboard views of coastline; views of cargo on ship and unloading at docks, lightering to shore, shots of various boats and ships; Alaska native villages, dwellings, men, children; group and individual shots of various identified men and women, including several of young men with trophies for a rifle tournament, ships' captains and crews; a boat race on Green Lake in Seattle, fishing trips in the Pacific Northwest. Other locations pictured include Kotzebue, Shishmaref, Deering, Golovin, St. Michael, Unalakleet, Gambell, Savoonga (Alaska); Lake Crescent, Snohomish (Washington); Nestucca River (Oregon). Corresponding negatives with brief descriptions and dates in Negative Album 1.
- 3 2 Album 2: Photos 101-200, 1931-1932
Scope and content: Scenes throughout Alaska featuring numerous shipboard views of coastline; unloading cargo at docks, on shore, in villages, often by hand; lightering to shore, shots of various boats and ships; men, women, and children in Alaska native villages; town and village views of native dwellings, post offices in Unalakleet and Shishmaref, Teller Commercial Co., and other businesses and buildings; group and individual shots of various identified men and women, including several of young men with trophies from the Seattle Pistol Team, ships' captains and crews. Other locations pictured include Savoonga, Gambell, Kivalina, Kotzebue, Kiwalik, Wales, Diomedes, St. Michael (Alaska); Bremerton (Washington). Corresponding negatives in Negative Albums 1 and 2.
- 3 3 Album 3: Photos 204-263, 1932-1933
Scope and content: Alaska and Washington scenes featuring scenic views of Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea, Mt. Vsevidof; men, women, and children in Alaska native villages; a series of photos from a winter hunting trip in Chelan National Forest (Wash.) with numerous trophies shots of deer, bear, fish, bighorn sheep; Seattle shooting competitions; views of cargo on ship, shots of various vessels including U.S. Engineering lighters carried on larger ships. Other locations pictured include Kanaga Island, Nikolski, and other Aleutian Island villages (Alaska). Corresponding negatives in Negative Album 2.

- 3 4 Album 4: Photos 265-412, 1933-1934
Scope and content: Alaska scenes featuring numerous shipboard views primarily from the *Derblay* including cargo on deck, shots of U.S. Engineering lighters carried on larger ships, sea ice and Bering Sea, coastline, other ships on the water, unloading cargo, lightering to shore; group and individual shots of various men and women, including native peoples in villages, ships' captains and crews; hunting and fishing trips. Locations pictured include Teller, Wales, Unalakleet, Nome, Ketchikan, Juneau (Alaska); Nanaimo (British Columbia); western Washington. Corresponding negatives in Negative Album 2.
- 3 5 Album 5: Photos 416-513, 1934
Scope and content: Alaska scenes featuring shipboard views primarily from the *Derblay* including cargo on deck, coastline, other ships on the water, lightering to shore; unloading cargo at docks, on shore, in villages by hand; numerous group and individual shots of native men, women, and children in villages; men flying planes in Kotzebue; post-fire Nome waterfront. Other locations pictured include Bristol Bay, Wales, Gambell, Savoonga, Kiwalik, Shishmaref, and Teller. Corresponding negatives in Negative Albums 2 and 3.
- 3 6 Album 6: Photos 514-607, 1934-1935
Scope and content: Alaska scenes featuring many shipboard views primarily from the *Derblay* including cargo on deck, other ships on the water, lightering to shore; unloading cargo at docks; numerous scenic views of coastline, wharves, mountains, forest; post-fire Nome waterfront, Nome Harbor Lighterage Co., street scenes and other views of town; mining scenes including dredges. Other locations pictured include Kiwalik, Sitka, Hoonah, and Inian Islands. Corresponding negatives in Negative Album 3.
- 3 7 Album 7: Photos 608-708, 1935
Scope and content: Alaska scenes featuring many shipboard views primarily from the *Derblay* including cargo on deck, other ships on the water, lightering to shore; unloading cargo at shore and docks; numerous group and individual shots of ships' crew, and native men, women, and children in villages; mining equipment including dredges; fishing and hunting trips in Washington state. Locations pictured include Candle, Kiwalik, St. Michael, Teller, Gambell, Savoonga, Dutch Harbor, Seldovia, Wales, and Shishmaref. Corresponding negatives in Negative Albums 3-4.

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| 3 | 8 | <p>Album 8: Photos 709-808, 1935-1936</p> <p>Scope and content: Alaska scenes featuring shipboard views including cargo on deck, other ships on the water, unloading cargo at shore and docks, members of crew; a reindeer farm in St. Michael; fishing and hunting trips in Washington state; a series of aerial views of the Seward Peninsula; numerous group and individual shots of native men, women, and children; village scenes with native families, dwellings, dogs. Locations pictured include Wales, Kiwalik, Shishmaref, Candle, King Island, Diomed Islands, Teller, Solomon, Ruby, Nome (Alaska); western Washington. Corresponding negatives in Negative Album 4.</p> |
| 3 | 9 | <p>Album 9: Photos 810-897, 1936-1938</p> <p>Scope and content: Alaska scenes featuring Electra planes at Fairbanks and Nome; dredges and other mining equipment; waterfront views, notable buildings such as the Maynard Columbus Hospital, Lomen warehouses and offices, Sesnon dock, dog teams on the sea ice, King Island natives landing boats on the beach, and other scenes in Nome. Corresponding negatives in Negative Albums 4 and 5.</p> |
| 3 | 10 | <p>Album 10: Photos 925-1008, 1938</p> <p>Scope and content: Alaska scenes featuring Electra planes; views of dredges, mining claim sites and fields, primarily for the U.S. Smelting, Refining & Mining Co.; shipboard views including cargo on deck, other ships on the water, lifeboats; Lomen operations including warehouses, cargo, cranes; events such as cornerstone-laying ceremonies of buildings in Nome; scenic views of Nome River and countryside. Corresponding negatives in Negative Album 5.</p> |
| 3 | 11 | <p>Album 11: Photos 1011-1066, 1938</p> <p>Scope and content: Alaska scenes including waterfront and street views, a storm, boats coming into harbor, notable sights and buildings such as Lomen warehouses and the Polet store, and other scenes in Nome; village scenes with native families, dwellings; fishing scenes and trophy shots. Other locations include Sledge Island, Nome and Snake Rivers. Most corresponding negatives in Negative Album 5 (negatives 1045-1066 not present).</p> |
| Negative albums | | |
| 4 | 1 | Album 1: Negatives 1-196, 1930-1931 |
| 4 | 2 | Album 2: Negatives 197-443, 1931-1934 |
| 4 | 3 | Album 3: Negatives 444-643, 1934-1935 |

4	4	Album 4: Negatives 644-844, 1935-1936
4	5	Album 5: Negatives 845-1044, 1936-1938
5		Sleeved negatives (removed from albums), 1930-1938

Series 3: Publications

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder/Item</u>	<u>Contents</u>
		Government publications
		United States Geological Survey
1	4	Professional Paper 1, <i>Preliminary Report on the Ketchikan Mining District, Alaska, with an Introductory Sketch of the Geology of Southeastern Alaska</i> , Alfred Hulse Brooks, 1902
1	5	Professional Paper 109, <i>The Canning River Region, Northern Alaska</i> , Ernest de K. Leffingwell, 1919
6	1	Bulletin 328, <i>The Gold Placers of Parts of Seward Peninsula, Alaska, Including the Nome, Council, Kougarok, Port Clarence, and Goodhope Precincts</i> , Arthur J. Collier et al., 1908
6	2	Bulletin 433, <i>Geology and Mineral Resources of the Solomon and Casadepaga Quadrangles, Seward Peninsula, Alaska</i> , Philip S. Smith, 1910
6	3	Bulletin 442, <i>Mineral Resources of Alaska: Report on Progress of Investigation in 1909</i> , Alfred H. Brooks et al., 1910
6	4	Bulletin 533, <i>Geology of the Nome and Grand Central Quadrangles, Alaska</i> , Fred H. Moffit, 1913
6	5	Bulletin 536, <i>The Noatak-Kobuk Region, Alaska</i> , Philip S. Smith, 1913
6	6	Bulletin 578, <i>The Iditarod-Ruby Region, Alaska</i> , Henry M. Earkin, 1914
6	7	Bulletin 587, <i>Geology and Mineral Resources of Kenai Peninsula, Alaska</i> , G. C. Martin, B. L. Johnson, and U. S. Grant
6	8	Bulletin 592, <i>Mineral Resources of Alaska: Report on Progress of Investigations in 1913</i> , Alfred H. Brooks et al., 1914
6	9	Bulletin 649, <i>Antimony Deposits of Alaska</i> , Alfred H. Brooks, 1916
6	10	Bulletin 754, <i>The Ruby-Kuskokwim Region, Alaska</i> , J. B. Mertie, Jr. and G. L. Harrington, 1924
6	11	Bulletin 773, <i>Mineral Resources of Alaska: Report on Progress of Investigations in 1923</i> , A. H. Brooks et al., 1925

- 6 12 Bulletin 797-E, *Aerial Photographic Surveys in Southeastern Alaska*, R. H. Sargent and Fred H. Moffit, 1929
- 6 13 Bulletin 800, *Geology and Mineral Deposits of Southeastern Alaska*, A. F. Buddington and Theodore Chapin, 1929
- 7 1 Bulletin 815, *Geology and Mineral Resources of Northwestern Alaska*, Philip S. Smith and J. B. Mertie, Jr., 1930
- 7 2 Bulletin 857-A, *Mineral Industry of Alaska in 1932*, Philip S. Smith, 1934
- 7 3 Bulletin 864-A, *Mineral Industry of Alaska in 1933*, Philip S. Smith, 1934
- 7 4 Bulletin 880-A, *The Mineral Industry of Alaska in 1935*, Philip S. Smith, 1937
- 7 5 Bulletin 897-A, *The Mineral Industry of Alaska in 1936*, Philip S. Smith, 1938
- 7 6 Bulletin 910-A, *The Mineral Industry of Alaska in 1937*, Philip S. Smith, 1939
- 7 7 Water-Supply Paper 314, *Surface Water Supply of Seward Peninsula, Alaska*, F. F. Henshaw et al., 1913
- 7 8 Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, *Navigation Laws of the United States*, Supplement I, 1935
- 7 9 Bureau of Mines, Bulletin 405, *Copper Mining in North America*, E. D. Gardner, C. H. Johnson, and B. S. Butler, 1938
- 7 10 *Fish Traps in Alaskan Waters: Hearings before the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, House of Representatives, Seventy-Fourth Congress, Second Session on H. R. 4254 and H. R. 8213*, 1936
- 7 11 *Archaeological Excavations at Kukulik, St. Lawrence Island, Alaska: Preliminary Report*, Otto William Geist and Froelich G. Rainey, 1936
- 7 12 Kodiak Guides Association, *Alaska* (hunting guide), ca. 1932
- 7 13 Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Alaska, Circular No. 1, *Information for Prospective Settlers in Alaska*, 1937
- 7 14 *Annual Report of the Minister of Mines of the Province of British Columbia for the Year Ended 31st December 1943, 1944*