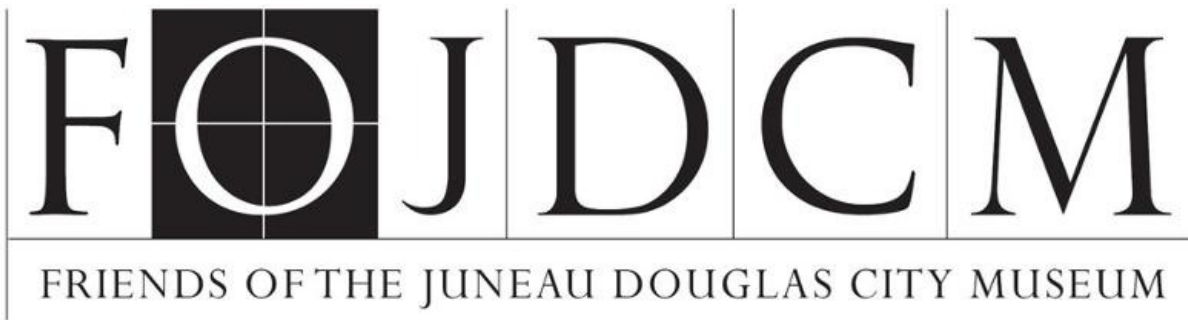


HISTORY ON THE CHANNEL
YOUR MONTHLY NEWS FLASH



The Daily Alaska Dispatch

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JUNEAU, ALASKA, May 11, 1918

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Juneau Goes to War!

ALL GASTINEAU CHANNEL WAS OUT TO CHEER THE EMBARKATION OF
THE CHOSEN YOUNG MEN



"...the Selective Service men were escorted through the streets by the band..."

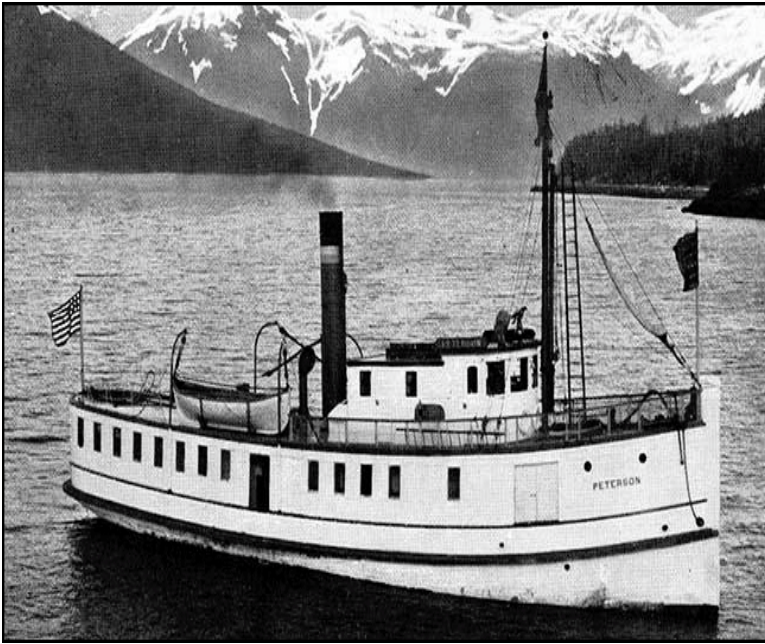
(ASL-P329-19)

May 11, 1918--The whistles blew, the band played, and some 4000 Channel people cheered as the Peterson, with nearly four score men going to join the national army, left the ferry dock last evening bound for Fort Seward.

The weather was perfect and the population from all the channel district gathered in Juneau yesterday afternoon to bid the boys farewell. There was nothing which could be thought of that was not done to make these young soldiers feel that those who remained at home wished to honor them.

After meeting with the Council of National Defense at the Dream Theater, the Selective Service men were escorted through the streets by the band, the Home Guard, the Defense Council, and the children from the Juneau public schools.

The Hon. John Rustgard then delivered the address to the men on behalf of the residents of the channel towns. He was frequently forced to pause until the audience had expressed its approval of his words with much clapping.



Clifford Gunning, one of the drafted men, appeared in his khaki-colored outfit and sang "Send Me Away With a Smile." Then he and Bill Frye sang "The Stars and Stripes Shall Wave Over Germany." The boys in the balcony boomed in on the chorus and the people out in front went wild.

At 6 o'clock, the draft men were served dinner at the Gastineau. From there they marched, accompanied by a great concourse of citizens, preceded by the band, to the dock.

From the dock crowded with patriotic American citizens sailed these squads of virile youth, cheerily bearing the responsibility of carrying the honor of Alaska on battlefields across the sea. As the boat left the wharf every whistle on the channel broke loose. Twenty gas boats escorted the Peterson a few miles on her way. (*Daily Alaska Dispatch, abridged*)

The Army steamer Peterson was based at Ft. William H. Seward, near Haines. ASL-MS10-4-01-22-064



"Twenty gas boats escorted the Peterson a few miles on her way." ASL-P329-29