

There is considerable talk at Mt. McKinley National Park about the construction of the Alaska pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez. Mt. McKinley is an isolated island of conservation and in the middle of the rising tide of construction the state is just a broomstick and in that way is depressing.

At Katmai National monument I did a little construction work. The fishing is good and I caught a six pound rainbow trout. The red salmon were spawning and was able to watch all the behavior of the salmon. There was one rainbow trout that was interesting to watch. The salmon were moving pretty well along and others staying in one place where they dug out a little shallow dish with their tails and they set up their territories and you could see them chase away other salmon. The trout would come up and hit the salmon on the side and a few eggs would pop out and the trout would then eat the eggs. The trout were there to eat the eggs of the salmon and they laid their eggs. but the salmon outnumbered the trout by about 1 thousand to one.

There was a whole lot of fishing that come out ^{? up} into Rainier Lake last year when $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million red salmon moved in. They are expecting only a third that number this year and they closed the fishing. I wonder how good an idea they have about fish populations. It's pretty hard to estimate the fish population. The best time is to count them as they come ^{to spawn} in. They set up these fish towers where they can have a glass observation station where they can count the fish as they swim by. They probably make about a 25% error in counting. It's really an impressive site down at Katmai. The valley of Ten Thousand Smokes and while they are not smoking anymore there are many interesting things to see. The great depths of ash is easily eroded and there are deep steep walled canyons.

I stayed in a campground ^(by Bert's Camp) there for two nights and the bears were always near and every morning they would walk thru the campground. The Park has a cache they provide there and people put their food there so the bears could not get it. At McKinley Park I always meticulously