

# **ALASKA: THE LAND OF NOW**

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Alaska: The Land of Now by D. A. Noonan

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**D. A. NOONAN**

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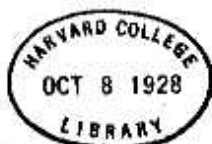
**TAKU GLACIER**

ALASKA  
The Land of Now

*By*  
D. A. NOONAN

SEATTLE, WASH.  
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To The Mariners  
of the North Pacific and Alaskan Waters,  
"Those bays where rocks and reefs abound,"  
and to  
The River Steamboat Men  
of the Great Yukon,  
"With it's sand-bars and it's flats,"  
these rhymes are affectionately dedicated.

As one of their number I have sailed these seas at all seasons of the year and have put my time in on the Great River. At all times was I impressed with their zeal, their watchfulness and their solicitude for the care and safety of the passengers whose business or journeyings took them into these dangerous waters. Knowing, then, their anxiety, and how at times they become depressed by the weight of their responsibility, I will deem the moments of compiling these verses well spent if they bring one smile, or lighten by one ounce the load of care and worry of these hardy men during the tense moments of the dog-watches of their long night vigils, in fog and snow, in rain and foul weather.

Some day a beneficent and appreciative government may see fit to reward their services by establishing the oft requested increase to the aids to navigation which these waters so much need, and which would make the lives of these brave men less a hardship and a hazzard.

## PREFACE

The DOUGLAS NEWS has described "Alaska poetry" by the pithy word "rotten." This is a pretty strong word, but the News has probably had reasons to feel strongly. Most Alaska newspapers have had the same reason. If only the seriously minded rhymsters of the Territory could be made to remember that there is hardly one poet to every million people, they could hardly hope to find one in a population of scarcely forty thousand, except by a miracle. But, then, this should not stop verse making of the lighter and less serious kind.—ALASKA REVIEW.