

15 Boudinot Street,  
Princeton, N.J.

January 25, 1926

Mr. Henry O'Malley,  
Commissioner of Fisheries,  
Department of Commerce,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. O'Malley:

I have received your letter of January 22d in regard to taking motion pictures on Pribilof Islands. Two years ago Mrs. Finley, William, and I made an extensive cruise in the waters of British Columbia to get stills and motion pictures of wild birds and animals and scenics which I am now using in motion picture lectures in various parts of the country.

I am arranging my plans now to go to Alaska next summer, taking two still cameras and two motion picture cameras for the purpose of picturing its outdoor life, especially birds, animals, fish, and scenics, and any other subjects of popular interest to use in my lectures.

I am very much interested in what you say in regard to getting motion pictures on the Pribilofs or any of the nearby islands, showing seals, foxes, or other forms of animal life. I should be very glad to make some arrangements with you, so I could get both still and motion pictures and the Bureau could purchase prints of any part or of all of the material that you might care to have for official use. I am sure it would be a pleasure for us to cooperate with you along educational lines in any work that you are doing.

I suggest that you write me, letting me know about what time would be best to start on such a trip. I am not familiar with conditions on the Pribilofs, but in getting fairly complete and intimate studies of animal life, it always takes sufficient time so that we may have a good series of working days. Offhand, I should say that we might need eight or ten days to get what we

wanted, although this might extend into fifteen or twenty days time, if the weather conditions were not favorable. Are there any subjects on nearby islands that are different, or could we cover something quite well on the island where your station is? From my standpoint, it would be of value to show as much as possible of the life of the foxes and the seals that live on the island. These have a great deal of popular as well as scientific interest. I should also want certain scenes, showing the inhabitants of the islands, how the people live there, as well as general views of bird colonies and any other scenes that might be of interest to go with the story.

I want to thank you for calling my attention to this matter. I hope we can make some arrangement that will be of mutual interest.

Sincerely yours,

WLF/P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF FISHERIES  
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO FILE

January 22, 1926.

Subject: Motion pictures of Pribilof Islands.

Mr. W. L. Finley,  
15 Boudinot Street,  
Princeton, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. Finley:

From our recent conversation in Washington, I gathered that you contemplated a trip to Alaska during the coming year. I am particularly anxious to have some motion pictures taken of the seal islands and the life thereon and am wondering if the Bureau could make some arrangement with you to take some pictures at the Pribilof Islands, permitting you to show the films as you may desire but allowing us to purchase any part of the material which you take on the islands and which we might want for official use.

Very truly yours,

*Henry D. Malley*  
Commissioner.

*Answer to get material & still - pictures  
B.C. Mrs. F. & others. Glad to see you have stills of seal coast.  
17 prints*