

# Anchorage Passport Office Sought

Senator Gruening this week requested that the director of the passport office in the Department of State, Miss Francis Knight, investigate the feasibility of establishing a passport office in Anchorage.

As it is now, the nearest passport office is in Seattle, thus subjecting persons living in Anchorage who desire a passport to the inconvenience and delay of obtaining one from Seattle.

In his letter to Miss Knight, the senator wrote that most of the airlines cross over Anchorage between Europe and Asia and the traffic is increasing.

"It is true," he said, "that an investigation was made two years ago and it was found that there was not sufficient traffic to justify an office in Anchorage, but traffic is steadily increasing."

Senator Gruening also related to Miss Knight an unfortunate occurrence that happened in Anchorage last week. A woman who resides there heard that her mother was dying in Germany and

she wanted to go immediately before she passed away.

She found that she could not get the necessary passport immediately as no facilities were available except in Seattle. Through the efforts of Senator Gruening, the woman was able to get a passport, but he is concerned that there are no provisions for such emergency situations in the future.

Miss Knight has assured Senator Gruening that she will restudy the matter of locating a passport office in Anchorage and give him an answer in a few weeks.