

Alaska 67 Centennial Medallions Available for Sale

Alaska 67 has received 50 Official Purchase Centennial medallions from the State Centennial Commission. The 2½" bronze medallions will be sold by Alaska 67, and other local centennial committees for \$5.00.

An additional supply is expected in the near future. Orders will be taken at the Alaska 67 office, 550 First Avenue, after the supply on hand is exhausted.

The medallion portrays the Centennial seal which was created by Major Robert D. Vodicka. Its insignia of a totem pole depicts a Russian church, representing the early Russian rule; the Eagle, symbolic of America's Purchase and also of the period of Alaska's history when this territory was governed by the War, Treasury, and Navy Departments.

Above the eagle, a goldpanner represents the gold-strikes that brought wealth and fame to Alaska; and above him, the train is meant to symbolize ensuing improvements in all forms of transportation.

The 49th star was envisioned by the artist not only to recall Alaska's achievement of statehood, but also as a star of law and order and of the vast possibilities which lie ahead for the 49th State.

The seal of the Alaska Purchase Centennial 1867-1967 also contains the Alaska flag and the numerous mountains, one peak representing the 20,300 foot Mount McKinley, the highest mountain in North America.

On the reverse side is the bust of Secretary of State William H. Seward, who succeeded in persuading the Russians to sell Alaska.

Although many called the purchase of the 586,000 square miles of territory for the sum of \$7,200,000 "Seward's Folly," the Secretary's astuteness and foresight were soon recognized.

The Alaskan Centennial Medallion was struck by the Medallion Art Company of New York City, who also reproduced the official Alaskan Statehood medallion commemorating Alaska's admission to the Union in 1959.