

Wrangell St. Elias News

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" - Thomas Jefferson

VOL. FIVE ISSUE TWO

MARCH & APRIL 1996

TWO DOLLARS

Dear IRS:

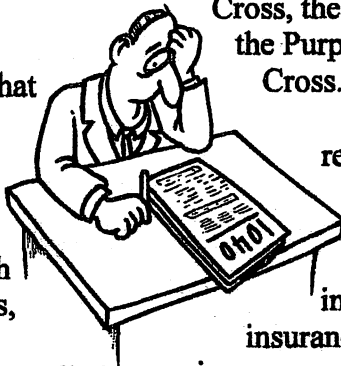
Dear IRS:

In reply to your request for payment, I wish to inform you that the present condition of my bank account makes it almost impossible. My shattered financial condition is due to federal laws, state laws, borough laws, local laws, brother-in-laws, sister-in-laws, and outlaws.

Through these laws I am compelled to pay income tax, property tax, business tax, amusement tax, head tax, cosmetic tax, tobacco tax, alcohol tax, gas tax, inheritance tax, food tax, light tax, excise tax, car tax, garbage tax, water tax, sewer tax, telephone tax, sales tax, transportation tax and hidden tax.

I am required to get a park service license, business license, car license, operator's license, truck license, snowmobile license, 4-wheeler license, trailer license, bicycle license, hunting license, fishing license; not to mention a marriage license and a dog license.

I am also required to contribute to every charity, society or organization which the genius of man is capable of bringing to life; to the local Council, to the Chamber of Commerce, to minor hockey, to figure skating, to senior hockey, to the curling fund, to the United Fund, to the Centennial Fund, to the Red



Cross, the White Cross, the Blue Cross, the Purple Cross, and the Double Cross.

For my own safety I am required to carry life insurance, health insurance, accident insurance, fire insurance, property insurance, liability insurance, earthquake

insurance, tornado insurance, old age insurance and unemployment insurance.

My business is so governed that it is no easy matter to find out who owns it. I am inspected, expected, suspected, disrespected, rejected, dejected, examined, reexamined, informed, required, summoned, fined, coded and compelled, until I provide an inexhaustible supply of money, for every known need, desire or hope of the human race.

Simply because I refuse to donate to something or other I am boycotted, talked about, lied about, held up, held down, and robbed until I am almost ruined.

I can tell you honestly that, except for a miracle that happened, I could not enclose this check for payment. The wolf that comes to my door nowadays just had pups in my kitchen. I sold the pups and here is the money.

Sincerely Yours,



WSEN — a gold mine of information!



A note from the publisher

BY BONNIE KENYON

We are back from our Florida/Georgia trip and came home refreshed and blessed with the memories of quality time with our folks, kids and grandchildren. Our No. 1 grandson, Jonathan David, 2 ½, loves telling stories. His favorite is the Bible story about David and Goliath. His "sling" is usually a makeshift affair with whatever is handy at the time he needs it. Rick, Sr. makes a wonderful giant, but when he wanted to switch roles, Jonathan quickly put Grandpa Rick in his place — that of Goliath!

Jonathan David loves his new baby brother, Stephen Joel. I can see why! Stephen was 6 weeks old when I first held him. I'm sure all you grandmothers know just how I felt. Rick Jr. and Maria said I could hold Stephen as much as I wanted to — even when he was sleeping — and so I did. For the most part, Stephen slept through it all and won't remember a thing, but I will!

Due to adverse weather in the lower 48, our flights took a few changes going and coming but we were never stranded; that is, not until we hit the last leg of our trip — the "infamous" McCarthy Road!

On our drive to Anchorage on January 5, the road was in excellent condition, and we enjoyed the lack of challenges that winter sometimes brings to this area. On the way home, however, a road glacier near Mile 32 turned soft, creating a large hole. Rick tried to edge around it but the car slid in. To make a long story short, we spent the night

(actually 20 hours) in the glacier. We were thankful for our parkas, snowsuits and winter boots. They did a good job in keeping us warm and dry.

Shortly after dark, Roland and Joy Hammack — along with 2 of Roland's fellow guides — discovered us while returning from a snowmachine trip to McCarthy. The Hammacks live at Mile 27 and operate Hammack's Guide Service out of their home at Chokosna.



Roland went home and brought his truck to pull us out. As he attempted to go around us, one tire fell through the glacier and his truck spent the night alongside us!

The next morning he and his friends returned with planks and a heavy duty jack. In a short time his truck was out and up on solid ice. Before long, Roland and "friends" had us (and George's Suburban!) unstuck and on our way home. I couldn't help but comment that perhaps Roland was an angel in disguise. (This is the second time he has rescued us. See the Jan./Feb. 94

issue of WSEN.) It appeared Roland liked that analogy, but one of his sidekicks quickly added: "It's a real good disguise!" By the way, I wrote down the names of Roland's friends somewhere and haven't been able to find my note. (It is probably at the bottom of the hole we were stuck in!) I must say if you ever want to go on a guided hunt for Alaska Big Game, you are safe in the hands of Roland and his professional guides. They have an excellent success rate!

For those of you interested in our "church news," not much was done on the building project since the last issue. Too cold! A load of pine boards for the inside was brought in since Rick and I left on our trip. A very special thanks to Gary and Betty Hickling, John Adams and Kim Northrup who lent a hand either in delivery or unloading the materials. We chose to designate our church page to an article by Linda Bowles called, "The Spirit of Easter began with a simple message." We trust you find this a timely message.

Wrangell St. Elias News welcomes aboard the following new subscribers: Donna St. John, AK; Stephen & Diane Thorn, WA; John Strosahl, WA; Harvey Stelling, AK; Dave Hollis, AK; Flo LaLande, AK; Vernice Kluh, WA; Nels Konnerup, WA; Personal Alaskan Adventures, AK; John & Cynthia Schafer, MD; Lyn & Charlie Plomaritis-O'Neill, AK; Jim & Mary Hummel, AK; Bob Kean, AK; Bob Langberg, AK; Museum of Alaska Transportation & Industry, AK.

Items of Interest

BY BONNIE KENYON

Jürgen Ogrodnik: This winter's cold snap didn't slow Jürgen down. In fact, it worked in his favor. It just gave him more time to "work on his music." He is excited about his latest work of art — a CD he recorded at Puffin Studios in Homer. "Jürgen Ogrodnik Playing Guitar" became available to the public last fall.

McCarthy's sole professional musician says he has made a "full-time commitment" to his music and learning "how to be a businessman." He called his 8 year commercial fishing career "done" as of March '95 and is now able to give his music full attention.

It seems I'm always learning something new about my neighbors. Jürgen informed me he spent 2 years studying music at a university in Colonge, Germany. Also, he's looking forward to another possible summer visit from his mom and dad, Hans and Margret Ogrodnik, of Germany.

Our congratulations, Jürgen, and hope all our readers will want their own piece of McCarthy's present talent and order your CD! (Be sure and look for Jürgen's ad in this issue to see how you can purchase it.)

Verna Lee Canter and Jack Spakes: Rick and I were snowmachining to mail a couple of days ago and Verna and Jack passed us going in the opposite direction. I did a double-take. Something was certainly different and yet familiar about their snowmachine. After coming to an abrupt stop, I discovered why their machine had caught my eye. We both were driving the same make, model and year

snowmachine — 1996 Bearcats 340cc made by Arctic Cat.

Seems Jack attempted the McCarthy Road with their old machine but had to turn around. Needing some parts, he stopped at Saint's Arctic Service in Copper Center. Instead of parts, however, Jack left Saints on a new Bearcat — even equipped with reverse. By the way, Verna and Jack, your "cat" is No. 6 on the ever-growing list of Bearcats in our community! Congratulations.

Loy Green: As Jeannie Miller says, "We have a population explosion in the area." She's not referring to critters or humans, but to the influx of Bearcat snowmachines. Loy's new Bearcat is No. 5 and is he ever proud of it. I saw him at mail this last week and he is putting it to good use already. The "cat" was hooked to a sled full of firewood and was pulling its share of the load!

I asked Loy if he was finding time to have a little fun with his latest purchase, and he admitted he took a trail breaking excursion the other day. He was only stuck for 3 hours. I guess that's having fun, Loy! It didn't deter him from future adventures, however, because he, John Adams and Gary Green were all planning on taking their Bearcats for a spin later that day. Actually, I hope they didn't do a lot of "spinning."

Just to fill in the list of new Arctic Cat machine owners... Gary and Nancy Green have No. 1, Kelly and Natalie Bay No. 2, Rick and I No. 3 John Adams is No. 4. (This might have been the year to own Arctic Cat stock!)

Jim, Jeannie, Aaron and Matt Miller: A new addition to the Miller family is a puppy named Nizina. Jeannie says "Zina" was rejected by her mom but, thanks to Carly Kritchen, they managed to raise the pup on a bottle and puppy formula. (Seems Carly had the bottle and the formula "recipe"!)

Millers survived the cold snap but say this year was the coldest stretch they've seen since they moved up to Kennicott from McCarthy ten years ago. Jeannie says she remembers seeing -64 one winter while living in the Commissioner's cabin in downtown McCarthy and she said she would never live in that cold again. Shortly after that, the Miller family moved to higher elevation and balmy temperatures. (If you call -33 balmy!!) This year's glitch is Jeannie's need to maneuver her dog team over the 10' high glacier on the road between McCarthy and Kennicott. What an interesting winter!

Elizabeth Schafer: Elizabeth, the Miller's schoolteacher this winter, has taken 3 weeks off and is out getting a bit of education herself. She is helping out a friend who is running a dog team in the Yukon Quest, says Jeannie, and could be anywhere between Fairbanks and Whitehorse. Her "vacation" will soon be over but, I expect, Elizabeth will bring back some interesting stories to entertain her students!

Ben, Marci, Gaia and Ardea Thurston-Shaine: I am told the Shaines are due back to their home in Kennicott and should be arriving on the mail plane the third week of February. Guess they've been waiting for it to warm up and snow which it certainly has. As of Feb.

19, we have 25 inches of snow on the ground — took awhile, but it finally arrived in style.

Terry and Dee Frady: Well, what are the Fradys up to these days, I asked Dee. She said it has really been a quiet winter for them. Fifteen days of -30 degree temperatures was the coldest snap they've seen since they moved to the McCarthy area 11 years ago.

This winter is having its high points for the Fradys, in spite of the frigid temps. Dee says, "It's all electronic playing this year." That playing includes sampling their new satellite dish and now Terry has his hands (and sounds like his head is getting a good work over, too!) on a new computer keyboard. Not that computers are all that new to Terry. He worked with computers for 20 years while in the military and took programming in college. According to Dee, even though the software is totally different, "Terry is having fun." Congratulations, you two, and be sure to come up for air once in awhile.

Lilly Goodman: The February 16 mail plane brought more than our weekly mail. Lilly was on board. She's been gone for almost 2 months visiting family and friends. Lilly said her Dad's birthday was

Dec. 25 and she, her two sisters and brother-in-law celebrated by traveling to Pine Crest, Ca. where she grew up. They had a wonderful time.

A long road trip took her to Death Valley where she thoroughly enjoyed the 80 degree temperatures. (Quite an improvement from the -50 degrees back home in McCarthy.) She even met up with Tracy Ross in Las Vegas where they took off on a camping trip. Sounds like they had quite an adventure — complete with lightening and thunder!

Lilly says the best part of her trip was her 10-day stay at Yosemite. It snowed the whole time but she loved it. Before returning to McCarthy, she stopped off in Cordova to visit Andy and Cynthia Shidner who are house-sitting Ken and Carly Kritchen's house.

By the way, if anyone out there wants to climb Mt. Jarvis in April, you'll want to contact Lilly who is looking forward to a new adventure this spring. Welcome home, Lilly; we missed you!

Gary, Nancy and Tyler Green: The Green family is enjoying the winter, says Nancy. Doing a little wood and log work and picking away at their cabin

addition. When I called, Tyler said he was just starting his schoolwork for the day. With Elizabeth gone, Nancy is temporarily standing in as Tyler's teacher.

Nancy and Tyler had a great time in Oregon visiting Nancy's folks. Says Nancy, "I had a really good time with my folks. We just enjoyed each others company; took walks together and did a lot of talking."

Tyler spent a good portion of his vacation hunting agates and sand dollars. (How about 71 sand dollars??) He (and Mom) had a great time visiting the Newport Aquarium 2 days after Free Willy moved in. "He is a beautiful whale," commented Nancy, "and so graceful, but he didn't like rain! And Tillamook is one of the rainiest spots in Oregon."

Fortunately, Nancy and Tyler were gone during the cold snap. In fact, knowing it was -50 in McCarthy, they decided to stay an extra week in Oregon. Welcome home!

Kim Northrup: Speaking of "welcome home"... Rick and I were sorry we missed seeing Kim when she visited McCarthy in mid January (during the cold spell!). She has been in Arizona with her folks but has returned to Alaska and is presently in Anchorage working. We can expect to see her back at the McCarthy Lodge this summer season. According to Kim, her folks, Jim and Peggy Guntis, are returning here to do some work on Kim's west side property. Kim, I'm sorry I missed having a cup of tea with you in January, but we'll make up for it this summer!

Mike McCarthy, Laura Bunnell and crew: While we were gone, McKenzie, Mike and Laura traveled to Wisconsin where McKenzie got to see his two great grandmothers. Nick and Luke spent the time in Anchorage with their grandmother and dad. Mike said

Wrangell St. Elias News

VOL. Five, Issue Two. March & April 1996.

Published every two months at McCarthy, Alaska. McCarthy, PO Box MXY, Glennallen, AK 99588-8998. Phone (907) 554-4454. FAX (907) 554-4454. Email Wsenews@aol.com. "Copyright © 1995 by Wrangell St. Elias News. No part of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the express permission of the publishers."

Contributors to this issue: George Cebula, Trig Trigiano, Linda Bowles, and Rabbi Joseph Telushkin. Subscription price is \$10 for one year in the USA. Canada \$12.50. Other countries \$20. Advertising rates upon request. Deadline for publication in next issue is April 15.

SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT GLENNALLEN, AK.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Wrangell St. Elias News, McCarthy, PO Box MXY, Glennallen, AK 99588-8998.

they also stopped by to visit Paul Goetzman in Minnesota. Sounded like everyone had a great time.

I asked Mike what the three boys are up to now that the weather has warmed up. He informed me they were busy making bows and arrows out of local alders and willows. (He assured me they weren't shooting each other!) Thank goodness.

Once the McCarthy Road is plowed, Mike says he'll be making a "supply" run into town. McKenzie, Nick and Luke are about to eat them out of house and home. "Those boys are sure eating a lot of pancakes!" exclaimed Mike. (Must be the cold weather.)

Rick Jurick: Mike and Laura's neighbor, Rick, did a community service the other day as well as help out a neighbor. An electrical engineer by trade, Rick, did a tune-up on our local KCHU equipment. According to Mike, the radio station had been off the air in our local area for 2 or 3 days. Thanks to Rick, it's back on.

While Rick and Mike were up at Jürgen's place (where the KCHU translator is located), Rick made Jürgen a new CB antenna. I answered Rick's call for "radio check" and can personally attest to the improvement. Congratulations, Jürgen, and thanks, Rick, for sharing your expertise!

Brock Ludwig and Diane Showalter: Fireweed Mountain Subdivision and Mark Vail are experiencing a population explosion all their own. Landowners, Brock and Diane, are spending the winter working on a log cabin. I hear they already have 8 rounds of logs up and doing a fine job. Being an energetic couple, our -40 and -50

degree temperatures didn't stop them. Their goal, I'm told, is to have their new cabin enclosed by the first of April.

They've been staying in a well-insulated wall tent while construction is underway. During the cold snap, Mark Vail says their "temporary" quarters were warmer than his cabin! I think Brock and Diane must be used to the outdoors. They are from Fairbanks and work for Alaska State Parks.

Congratulations, Brock and Diane, and a BIG welcome to our area.

Mark Vail: Speaking of Mark... he's refurbishing his dog sled for an upcoming trip. Also, he says he's busy stockpiling pieces of bent willow. Once spring comes, he'll begin assembling the willow into furniture to sell locally during our summer season.

Jim Edwards and Audrey Betcher: Things have been pretty quiet down at Swift Creek, says Jim, but they are making headway on his latest airplane project— assembling a Zenair homebuilt kit. With invaluable assistance from Stephan Klanck of Hamburg, Germany, Jim says the pieces are "basically done and just waiting to be put together." He hopes to get the fuselage done this summer. It turned out to be a good winter for *inside* projects, Jim!

Chris Richards: Chris says he is "waiting for summer." Somehow I get the feeling he is *really* looking forward to warmer temperatures and getting back to his tours of Kennicott.

Doesn't sound like he's going to wait around until our weather straightens out. He says he's

heading for California in March to visit family. I know you'll have a great time, Chris!

Chris has an update on Bjorn Olsen who is recovering from a serious ice climbing accident. Chris reports Bjorn is doing very well and is now walking with cane crutches. Although Bjorn is at home with his parents in Seward, he is undergoing intensive therapy and hopes to return to work in 2 months. Congratulations, Bjorn, and keep up the quick recovery!

Patrick, Phyllis, Rebekah and Sarah Sperry: What is the Sperry family doing these days? Getting firewood, says Phyllis. (That seems to be a common pastime among McCarthy residents this winter!)

Sarah and Rebekah have their hands full, too. Not only are they taking care of their own 3 cats but they are "kitten-sitting" Smokey, one of Carly Kritchén's cats. This is the girls' second time around with Smokey. Although he is the father of the 3 Sperry pets, he didn't seem to be endeared to them on his first visit. This time, however, Phyllis says things are much different. The 4 cats spend most of their time playing "kissin' kittens!"

Kelly, Natalie and Tessa Bay: The Bay family is back from Seattle where they visited family over the Christmas holidays. I asked Natalie what they've been doing since they got home and can you guess what she said? Cutting firewood! Maybe not extremely exciting, but certainly necessary these days.

Tessa is becoming quite an outgoing young lady and getting a good handle on the CB microphone, too. (Especially when her mom steps out of the room!)

Tales From Kip-The-Lodge-Dog

Hi there... my name is Kip-The-Lodge-Dog. My real name, as loosely translated from the language of dogs is: Black-stealthy-dog-who-barks-funny. I live with my Mom and Dad at the McCarthy Lodge and my job is to guard the main street by challenging all other dogs who tread there-on.

I have several good friends who I hang-out with: Smokie-the-cutie-who-eats-too-much; George-the-steriodal-semi-retired-lead-dog, Kavik-the-jester, and Rudy-the-rude. There are several other friends that I associate with, but none as close as those mentioned.

Smokie-the-cutie-who-eats-too-much (sometimes called "Smokie-go-home" by the two-leggers), spends much of his time hanging-out near the lodge kitchen door. There he manages to receive copious quantities of two-legger food. Smokie has truly mastered the starving-dog look although he is rapidly getting rounder that he is long.

Now, George-the-steriodal-semiretired-lead-dog is entirely different than Smokie. George takes great pride in his physique, the product of many years of lead-dogging and ingestion of massive doses of steroids. George has an unusual habit of doing his dew on high rocks. Most two-leggers think that this is just a perverted territorial marking behavior. In reality, George is just being considerate by depositing his dew in clear view so two-leggers won't step in it.

Rudy-the-rude is a regal and serious sort of dog who spends most of his time watching and listening to the comings and goings of the two-leggers.

One of his behaviors seems to always elicit the two-legger phrase

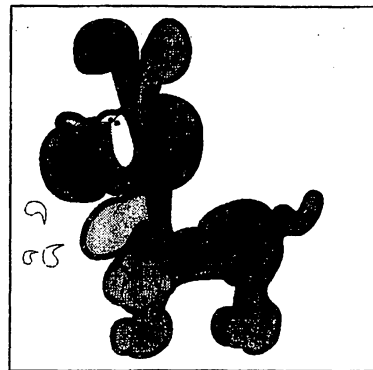
"the dog must have done it" as they scramble to get away from him. Rudy derives great pleasure from being able to drive two-leggers away without snarling or biting.

Kavik-the-jester is a squirrely sort of fellow who worries his overly-protective Mom a

lot. He spends most of his time tied under a tree near his house except for one day when I took him out for an adventure.

One summer day, Kavik's Mom forgot to tie him up, so I took advantage of the situation and took him on an adventure. A trip to the land of red buildings seemed like it was in order so off we went.

As we neared the turn-off to the big field where the large metal birds lived, we paused to wag our tails at the gray-haired two legger. From his window, he dutifully waved back at us as we passed. There is a rumor amongst us dogs that this two-legger is actually a large mannequin with a motorized arm set to waive at passersby.

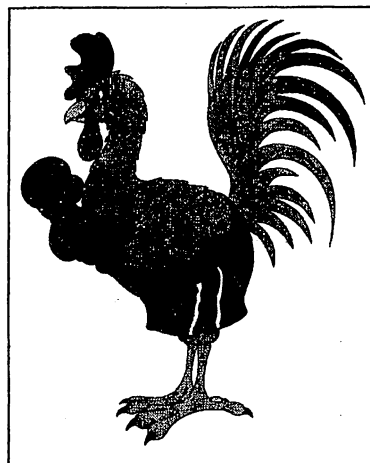


Within an hour of beginning our sojourn, we came to the land of the extremely dangerous but ever so delicious road chickens. This rowdy group of mercenaries, led by a two-legger called Boss-Pizza-Maker, have been known to ambush vehicles and peck out ten-ply, steel-belted radial tires with a single blow. The road chickens take great pleasure in humiliating dogs. They even have one poor soul staked out in the middle of their territory where they insistently taunt him throughout the long summer days. His only reprieve is at sunset when the road chickens retire to their lodge to plot fresh atrocities for the next day and drink lots of beer.

Since I am so stealthful, I was able to guide Kavik through the road chicken's domain without attracting their attention. It helped that the road chickens were otherwise occupied

with watching a football game with their two-legger friends.

A bit later we arrived in the land of red buildings. We were greeted by Rudy-the-rude and immediately began to discuss methods of disbanding and devouring the road chickens. It seems that Rudy was once a road chicken slave and has much valuable insider information



on their weaknesses. He is also a road chicken connoisseur and has written many books on stalking, dispatching, and preparing them for consumption.

Since two-leggers are suspicious of groups consisting of two or more dogs, Rudy thought it best for us to

return to McCarthy. Kavik expressed some reservations about traversing the road chicken's domain again so Rudy talked his Dad into giving us a ride back to McCarthy.

Upon arriving back at the lodge, Kavik's Mom immediately scolded

him and then took him back to his house where she tied him under the tree. Her utter disregard for a dogs' right to roam and get into trouble is disturbing. One of these days we'll get even. That will make another interesting tale.

Kennecott Bonanza Mine miniature update

BY BONNIE KENYON

The "miniature" is going public! According to Ron Simpson, Historical Research & Project Coordinator of the Kennecott-Alaska & Copper Rail Project, the Kennecott Bonanza Mine model is being displayed at the 15th Miners Biennial Conference on Alaskan

Mining. If you're in the Fairbanks area, be sure to stop at the Alaska-land Civic Center March 5-9 and see what the Bonanza Mine looked like during its peak years.

Other showings are expected to be at the Denali Bank in Fairbanks from mid March to mid April. Then, says Ron, it's coming to the

Copper River Valley and can be seen at the National Bank of Alaska in Glennallen from mid April.

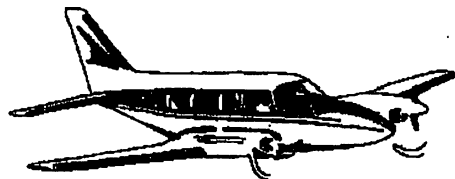
Getting closer to home, plans are for the Mother Lode Power plant (home of the St. Elias Alpine Guides) in downtown McCarthy to play host to this historic exhibition during the summer of '97.

"The biggest difference between politicians and intellectuals is that politicians fool other people, while intellectuals fool themselves." —Thomas Sowell

Scheduled Air Service from Anchorage to McCarthy with stopover in Gulkana!

Now you can leave Anchorage at 8:30 on Wednesday or Friday morning and arrive in Gulkana at 9:45, McCarthy at 11:00. Or, you can leave McCarthy at 11:15 and be back in Anchorage by 2:00pm the same day! (Leaves Gulkana at 12:45)

This service is year around.



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Rates:

Gulkana/McCarthy	\$56*
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May Creek/Gulkana	\$60
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Kennecott Laundry located

In our last issue subscribers Otto and Wilma Seiz asked if anyone had more information on the laundry at Kennecott. Several readers responded:

☐ I know you'll get many answers as to where the Kennecott Laundry was, but I'll be one of them. It was situated behind the Kennecott General Store, nearly on the Glacier. When my parents and I returned from our trip to Denmark in, roughly, 1922 as I was 4, my

With reference to the inquiry from Otto and Wilma Seiz. The Kennecott laundry building was located behind the Company Store, at the edge of the tailing pile near the Kennecott Glacier. It was managed by a Japanese gentleman named Tom Mori. The laundry took care of the flat work from the hospital and bed linen and table linen from the staff house and the private mess in the staff house annex. I believe the laundry building is gone?

back of the store, toward the glacier. It is no longer there. During all the time I lived in Kennecott, from 1924 to 1933, the laundry was operated by a Japanese gentleman named Morey. I don't know whether that was his first or last name. He would trudge up the hill to what is now called Silk Stocking Row with a huge bag of laundry on his back.

We had a wringer washing machine in our home, but no way to dry sheets and towels when it was close to zero outside.

Mary Ellen Clark

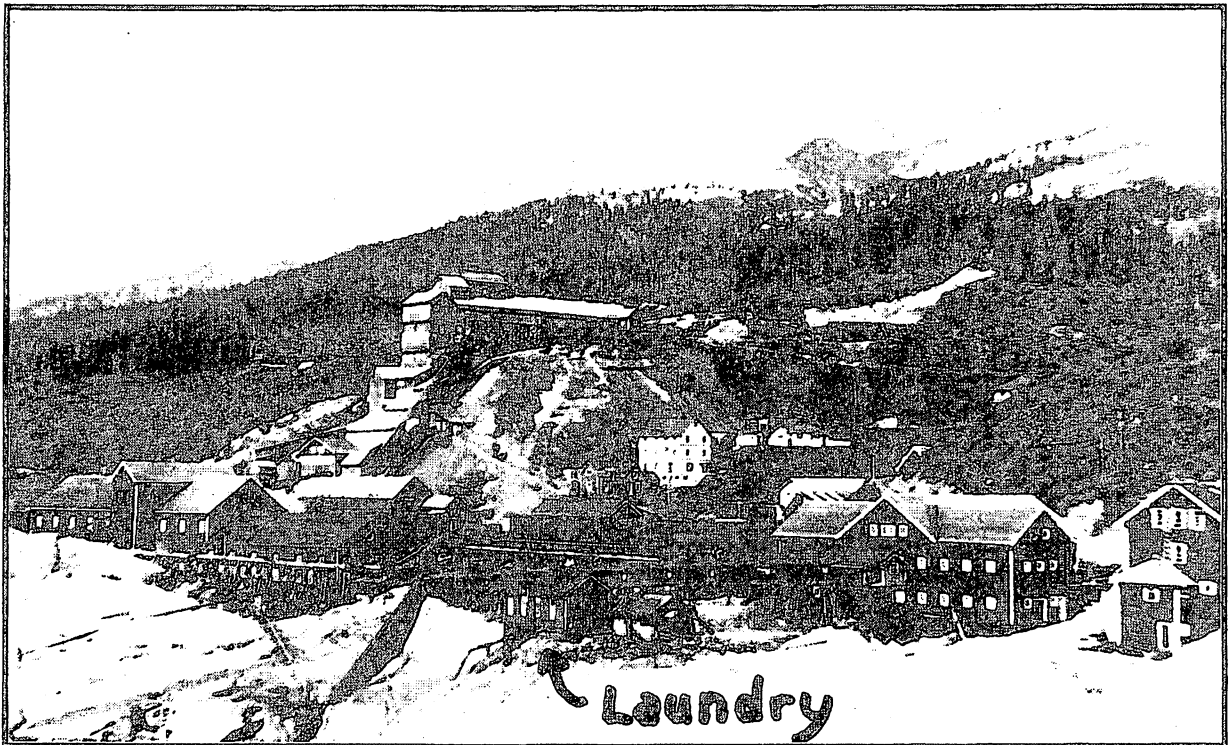


photo courtesy Jim McGavock

Aunt Ellen accompanied us. I remember she attended night school to learn English and she went to work in the Kennecott Laundry. It wasn't too long before she married Axle Hansen, also from Denmark, and they lived in the little house that was next door to Chris Richard's present home. When Jeanne Elliott's mother came to Kennecott, she also lived there.

Inger Ricci

Enclosed is a snapshot taken prior to 1930. Note the long building which extended from the leaching plant to the tailing dump behind the Company Store. It contained a conveyor belt. The tennis court is to the left of the mill on the hill. The white 3 story building was the staff house.

Jim McGavock

☐ As to the inquiry from the Seiz's, the laundry building was

☐ The laundry was built on the edge of the mill tailings. The building first appears in a 1916 photo, and the latest one I have shows it still standing in 1969. Evidently erosion eventually claimed the structure.

The laundry machines were salvaged and removed by the railway during mill closure in 1938.

Ronald N. Simpson

National Park Service news

BY BONNIE KENYON

New Chitina District Ranger:

According to Jon Jarvis, Superintendent of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park/Preserve, a new Chitina District Ranger has been named. Tom Betts of Yellowstone National Park is replacing Jim Hummel who is now settled in as Chief Ranger and Pilot with Katmai National Park near King Salmon.

Tom Betts leaves a position as a south sub-district ranger and is expected to arrive in the Glennallen area near May 1. He is a pilot and was "hand-picked for this area," says Jarvis.

He is used to remote living conditions at Yellowstone; in fact, he can't adequately move until spring — unless he used a snowmachine, which is his main mode of transportation in the winter.

Supt. Jarvis describes Tom as "hardworking, personable and honest." "We want Tom to continue the relationship that you (McCarthy area) have had with Jim Hummel," stated Jarvis.

Tom is married and has 2 children.

We look forward to meeting you, Tom, and welcome aboard.

McCarthy Road upgrade:
The National Park Service is

continuing to work with the State Department of Transportation (DOT) in seeing that the McCarthy Road upgrade remains a high priority on the DOT project list. "The initial scoring went well," says Supt. Jarvis.

A series of interpretive waysides have been identified along the McCarthy Road. Historical information would be displayed on 3' X 2' fiberglass panels as well.

Another project that is scoring well with DOT and NPS is the Chitina Wayside project. It would be located near the public phone and present ranger station and will include public toilets and an interpretive display of historic Chitina.

New on the project list are public toilets for the community of McCarthy. According to Jarvis, the park service is throwing in its support, agreeing to assist the McCarthy Area Council in the maintenance of the facilities. Jarvis said he is looking into more recent designs that would make for nicer vault outhouses. "Pumping is still the best solution for the time being," commented Jarvis.

Kennicott purchase: No move has been made on the Kennicott purchase because of the lack of a Federal budget.

Chisana airport: DOT and NPS have come to an agreement concerning the future of the Chisana airport, says Supt. Jarvis. Both agencies — including the FAA — are setting aside the "ownership" question and are focusing on "improvements" instead.

Chisana telephone service: Tok Telephone Company made a proposal to install telephone service in the Chisana area by the use of a satellite uplink located at Terry Overly's place. NPS was contacted for permission to lay cable under a creek. Construction is expected to begin this summer.

Subsistence Resource Council: The SRC is scheduled to meet on Feb. 28 & 29. A priority issue up for discussion concerns the Mentasta Caribou herd. It was a very good year for the herd with a high rate of calf survival.

NPS is proposing a limited subsistence hunt next fall, consisting of 15 bulls.

Resident Zone Boundaries: Superintendent Jon Jarvis chooses to "table the Resident Zone Boundary" issue and "focus on allocation of limited resources instead." The park service is "taking a new approach these days," states Jarvis. "We want to develop a long-term relationship — not adversarial."

Chamber of Commerce meeting

McCarthy — The Kennicott-McCarthy Chamber of Commerce is scheduled to meet at the office of McCarthy Air after mail on March 6, 1996.

Everyone is asked to bring at least one idea that you would like to see the Chamber succeed in this year.

Issues on the agenda are: outhouses, brochures and the bridge.

Correction

In our last issue we reported that the frequency for contacting Kenai Flight Service from the Gulkana area had been changed from 123.6 to 122.9. The correct frequency should have been 122.2. The frequency 122.9 is the Common Traffic Advisory Frequency (CTAF) used to report position and to talk with local weather observers.

Spirit of Easter began with a simple message

BY LINDA BOWLES

APRIL 7 — The spirit of Easter began with the simple message, "He is not here. He is risen." The tomb in which Jesus had been laid following His crucifixion was empty.

For hundreds of millions of people, that moment was the most important and the most defining in the history of the universe.

If you are not a Christian, don't give up on this column. It is not about theology. It is about human purpose and human destiny.

"A few hundred years ago, the belief was widespread that science would eventually provide all the answers."

AS YOU THINK about it, isn't it unthinkable that we would live our lives without devoting a considerable measure of time to the contemplation of what our lives are all about?

True, the contemplation of our mortality is not pleasant and the confrontation of our ignorance is demeaning. This is why we devote so much time and energy avoiding such contemplation and such confrontation.

I have come to suspect that a great deal of the activities of our lives, like booze, television, sex, political causes, sports, careers, crossword puzzles, Kato's hairdo and jogging, are calculated to occupy our minds so no opportunity exists for disquieting thoughts to intrude — thoughts about death, infinity, beginnings and ends, and timelessness.

A few hundred years ago, the belief was widespread that science would eventually provide all the answers. Archimedes, who discovered the laws of the pulley and the lever, boasted, "Give me a place to stand on and I will move the Earth."

Early philosophers speculated that the need for religion would decline as science unraveled the mysteries of the universe.

Alas, the opposite happened. Every new truth opened new doors for inquiry. It is commonly agreed that every time science answers a question, at least two new questions never asked before become possible. Ignorance is expanding at twice the rate of knowledge.

By extrapolation, we know relatively less and less about more and more. The deep mysteries of life recede as we approach. There is no end to them, only an unfolding outward and away from our reach.

However, the need to know is irresistible. Frustrated, spiritually hungry individuals and groups have expanded their quests for answers.

Some follow charismatic leaders, being more drawn by the certitude and confidence with which the message is delivered than by the quality of the message itself. Structured discipline and demanding religious cults have more appeal during uncertain times. Insecurity hungers for dead-certain answers, not enlightened questions.

SOME SEEK OUT causes, legitimate or maverick, in the search for meaning and in the quest for that which is large enough and worthy enough to justify human effort.

Others get caught up in the busy pursuits and graspings of life, totally consumed and directed by

the pushes and pulls of the world around them not only unable to break free but unaware they are captive.

They are like the greyhounds who race around the track chasing a mechanical rabbit; they are motivated to run as fast as they can in circles in pursuit of something they would not want if they caught it.

Maybe our shortsightedness about ourselves has to do with growing up on stories and tales that have beginnings and middles and ends. A good story is tightly constructed. One finishes it with a sense of closure. Things are worked out. There is resolution.

We are always shocked when death intrudes and does not permit an individual life to unfold. We have a sense something is wrong. We talk about a "premature death" like some agreement has been breached.

"Ignorance is expanding at twice the rate of knowledge."

Most of us, maybe all of us, have a poor awareness of cause and effect in our lives. Root causes are invisible to us. The seeds from which triumph and tragedy have grown can rarely be found. We live and operate without deep understanding. All is too complex, too tenuous. Life appears random and undirected. The ends don't meet.

If you are a believer, marvel at these words from Isaiah 59:10; if you are not a believer, marvel at this beautifully crafted insight into the human dilemma: "We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noon day as in the night:

we are in desolate places as dead men."

We yearn for understanding and we are impelled toward the heavens by an implanted homing instinct. Oh, if there were only some vantage point, some philosophical place where we could step back and away from ourselves — some place where we could stand and see ourselves clearly in the

perspective of all of creation and in the perspective of eternity.

Christians have found such a place, and the joy of its finding shines in their faces. From that place they see that the full meaning of their lives is to be worked out, fulfilled and understood not in the span of a lifetime but in the framework of forever.

THAT IS THE ESSENCE of Easter. The words resonate throughout all of creation: "He is not here. He is risen."

Hallelujah! He is risen!

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The Toll

My first trip down the river with sorrow I still recall,
How a boat that started with us was crushed 'gainst the canyon wall;
Crushed and the wreck sucked under, all in a passing breath
Husband and wife and baby entered the Gates of Death.

One who was with them escaping, swam to the opposite shore;
Meanwhile we got very anxious; we had been camped for an hour.
They stopped on a bar to get dinner; we had gone on before;
We built up a blazing campfire; then came a faint "Halloo."
We answered and waited breathless, and presently, stumbling through
Into the light of the campfire, bareheaded, wet and worn,
Came a man, half crazed and barefoot; his feet all bleeding and torn.

We gathered a few words from him, enough to know the worst.
We took the boat and candles, the while we silently cursed,
Making our way up the canyon as the darkness of the night came on,
To find the dead. In our hearts we knew that the souls of the living had gone.

We never found his body, but that of his wife and child.
We buried them there by the river, in the heart of the lonely wild.
We reverently stood by the graveside and offered up a prayer
For the souls that had passed forever from trouble and grief and care.
And there, where the swift Nizina flows out to the Chitina wide
We left her at rest, in the silence, with her baby by her side;
And thus it became a proverb in the years that have long since flown,
That with every passing season the River claimed its own.

From Songs of Alaska—submitted by Cliff Collins

Life at fifty below

BY GEORGE CEBULA

I arrived back in McCarthy on January 3rd, after fighting heavy snow in the Midwest for two weeks in order to visit family over the holidays. The Kenyons had asked me to house-sit and keep the weather reporting station open for them while they visited their family in Georgia and Florida. They spent the 4th going over things with me and left early the morning of the 5th for Anchorage and on to sunny Florida.

Things were pretty normal for the first week, and we even picked up 9 inches of new snow. January 12th was Friday and a mail day, and it was -35 at mail time and a cold ride on the snowmachine across the river. Terry Frady commented about the cold ride as our mail pilot, Lynn Ellis, landed with the mail. Just behind Lynn was Kelly Bay with his Cessna 185. I had no idea that this was the beginning of 18 of the coldest days I have ever spent in my entire life.

During the next two and a half weeks, Lynn would have to make 7 trips into McCarthy with ground temperatures of -40 or colder. The telephones were out of service for periods as long as two days, (the data lines still are not back to normal at this writing), so Lynn made three special trips with Copper Valley Telephone personnel.

I had experienced -50 degree temperatures before, but only for 1 or 2 days at a time. This was really an experience for me. The propane won't flow very well at -40, so the kitchen range, the heater, the lights, the water heater and refrigerator were out. The wood stove began to suck the wood like there was never enough to keep it filled. The oil

stove began to take a big gulp out of the tank. I did manage to keep the diesel generator operating, so I had lights and power about 10 hours a day.

The water lines and the sewer froze, among other things, and there was never time to relax. Just as I would solve one problem another would appear. We all felt the end



of the cold spell was just a few days away so we never really planned for two weeks of it. I made a call to my former co-workers at the National Weather Service about a week into the cold. At that time I was advised that the cold would be with us for another 10 days. We all had bad mouth the weatherman at one time or another, but this was one forecast that was right on the money. By this time I finally had things down to a regular routine and the place was staying warm with no more freeze up.

John Adams was about my only visitor, except when I would snowmachine to the airport to meet the mail plane. I kept busy exchanging temperature information by telephone or radio with the few neighbors who were in the area at this time of year. Temperatures

varied greatly depending on the location elevation. Terry and Dee Frady live directly above me, but are about 600 feet higher. They seldom got below -40, the same with the Millers and the other people who live at Kennicott. Al and Fran at May Creek and Kelly and Natalie Bay at Sourdough Ridge, along with the people in McCarthy, were usually within a degree of what I was reporting.

Things finally were beginning to get serious as we started into the second week. Most of the neighbors were getting low on wood and only a couple had snow machines that were operating. I had been getting all the mail for the west side of the river, but I couldn't get it to the Frady's. On Sunday the 21st, I climbed the creek bed behind the Kenyons and met Terry and Dee at Kris Reuter's cabin. Terry asked about my wood supply and stated that he was almost down to his emergency supply. The kitchen table wasn't too far behind if he didn't get hopping! On Tuesday the 23rd Kelly and Al stopped by after a 20 mile ride from May Creek at temperatures of -40. This was when we finally realized that the cold was here and we had to live and work with it.

Needless to say, we will never get used to -50 temperatures, but we learned (maybe the hard way) to live with them. The cold finally started to break the evening of January 28th, but not before the Super Bowl, and reached a warm -9 the afternoon of January 29th.

Remember, all this time the Kenyon's were in "sunny" Florida!



Getting Around—Conference discusses McCarthy Road

BY GEORGE CEBULA

Getting Around — Transportation Planning for Livable Communities — "A conference for citizens, communities, and transportation professionals to work together," was held at the Egan Center in Anchorage on February 14 & 15. The conference was sponsored by the American Planning Association (APA) of Alaska in association with the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) and the Alaska Citizens Transportation Coalition.

The conference started with opening addresses by Jon Isaccs, president of APA, Joe Perkins, commissioner of ADOT&PF, Bob Ruby, regional director of the Federal Highway Administration, and Cheryl Richardson, project director for the Alaska Center for the Environment. These were followed with brief presentations by various speakers from ADOT&PF, the Central Bering Sea Fisherman's Association, and the International Winter Cities Association.

The conference was then divided into workshop sessions. There were five different sessions and each session had four different presentations to choose from. The presentation of primary interest to the readers of WSEN was *McCarthy Road - Access to National Parks: Improving the Transportation System for Tourists and Alaskans*. I will try to give an in-depth account of the presentation in the remaining article. If any of our readers are interested in additional information on the conference, please contact me and I will be happy to share my notes and experiences with you.

The McCarthy Road session began at 9 a.m. on February 15. Chip Dennerlein, the regional administrator for the National Parks

and Conservation Association was the moderator. Additional presenters were Kelly Bay, owner of Wrangell Mt. Air and a McCarthy resident, Tony Johansen, director of DOT&PF Northern Region, and Janet McCabe from the National Park Service. Also in attendance were McCarthy area residents and land owners Rich Kirkwood, Bob Jacobs, Eric Yould, Gary Hickling, Gary Baugh, and Mari Montgomery (Representing University of Alaska land holdings).

Dennerlein started the discussion by stating that Wrangell-St. Elias, Glacier Bay, Kluane National Park and a new park in British Columbia are the biggest block of protected land in the world. "Planning must be the key to a successful project," he told the group, "with the interests of all parties being addressed in the process." At that point he turned the presentation over to Tony Johansen.

Johansen stated that he had only been in his position since July and that he wasn't really an expert on the project. He gave an overview of the project using slides that showed the route of the road as it is today and several scenes along the roadway. The road follows the route of the old Copper River and Northwestern Railroad and was joined to the road system in 1971 with the construction of the Copper River Bridge at Chitina. The current road is only 12-16 feet wide in most places and is maintained by the DOT&PF. The road became access to a national park when the Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve was established in 1980. A few of the

options for the upgrade of the road include hard surface compared to the current gravel surface and construction of a bike or hiking trail along the roadway. The foot bridge over the Kennicott River is scheduled to be out for bid this summer. A Chitina wayside rest area with toilets is planned for 1997 and a parking lot with toilets is planned for the west side of the Kennicott River in 1998. Johansen said that in March of 1995, DOT&PF entered into an agreement with DNR and NPS to establish a scenic roadway plan for the McCarthy Road with NPS as the lead agency. He finished by stating that the McCarthy Road is a state road that crosses private property, state land, native land and a small amount of NPS land.

Janet McCabe was next to speak. She said that the Copper River and Northwestern Railroad turned over the right-of-way to the State of Alaska in 1945 for DOT use. In 1995, 40,000 visitors and 15,000 vehicles traveled the road to the Kennicott River. Wrangell-St. Elias is the 11th most important land mark in the country. This is bringing in more visitors than ever. "The road is unique," said McCabe, "and the drive should be to see the scenery along the road and not just a route from Chitina to McCarthy."

Kennicott-McCarthy Wilderness Guides

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Commissioner Perkins stated that roadside improvements are to be planned and built. Public involvement is the key to a successful road project. Input was gathered from all parties along the road. This was accomplished with field trips by the planners rather than with community meetings. A preliminary draft plan is now being completed and will be out for public comment soon. The state is looking into making it a hard surface road because of the maintenance costs and trails along the road are being considered.

McCabe concluded by saying, "Look at the values of the road. Driving the road makes the memory. To complete a successful road upgrade both public and community involvement are urgently needed."

Kelly Bay was the next to speak and briefly stated that when he first came to McCarthy there were two bridges over the Kennicott River but that they only lasted

a few years — the river washed them out. "We want to share the Wrangells with the rest of the world," said Bay. "Public access should be limited to protect the values of the residents."

Dennerlein then took over again and stated that public involvement is needed in the planning of the project. He asked "What should the project be? Will everyone go to McCarthy? Is the project only for access to McCarthy?" "Whatever is done," said Dennerlein, "the road project is forcing the people of the McCarthy area to make decisions and they must be able to agree on the aspects of the project. Secondary impact is as important as primary impact. This will be the largest, most well funded front country development project in Alaska."

Dennerlein then called on Gary Hickling, for his comments. Gary stated that the planning for the project is excellent, but it is putting the entire impact on McCarthy.

This could be shared by the private sector, the state, and the NPS if the road project was extended 20 miles beyond McCarthy to May Creek. He said that there are 750 subdivided lots in this area. "The crossing of the Kennicott River should be down river from the present site and would join state land on the south side of McCarthy Creek," Hickling said. "This 1,000 acres of state land would make an excellent parking and camping area,

still limiting access to McCarthy to foot traffic via McCarthy Creek. The road to May Creek could then be accessed from the site and a road or trail to NPS Backcountry HQ at May Creek would then be available." Hickling continued by stating that NPS spent \$2,400 last year for servicing toilets along the McCarthy Road while they spent \$244,000 at May Creek for a sewage and water system. Access to May Creek would give true access to the National Park and not just access to McCarthy and Kennicott as it is at the present time. He said that most of the visitors enjoy the tram, so keep the tram and limit access to McCarthy to foot traffic as is now the case.

Hickling also stated that planning for impact on the infrastructure of McCarthy will be greatly limited by construction of the foot bridge. At this point he showed a video tape of supplies being forded across the Kennicott River as the current method of moving needed summer materials and supplies. "The private sector will be forced to continue fording because of the construction of the foot bridge," said Hickling. "Restricted access will continue the need for permits to cross the river during periods of open water."

Kelly Bay said that he believes that crossing the Kennicott should stay near the tram and there is no need to move it downstream. He thinks the impact on the community can still be shared by the private sector, the state, and the NPS at the present site. "The road project should be done in segments and there needs to be an overview of the project," said Bay. "The bridge needs to be a walking bridge with no vehicle access."

Rich Kirkwood was next recognized and he stated that he believes that the community can handle the issues of solid waste, sewage, and water in the current status. He is

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McCarthy Road repairs

BY BONNIE KENYON

Miller-Bock General Contractors of Eagle River won the bid for the McCarthy Road repair project.

According to Gary Bock, he and a crew of 5 hope to — weather permitting — begin mobilization of their equipment on Monday, February 26. They plan on going as far as the Kuskluana Bridge where they will off load the heavy stuff and put their D8 out front to smooth the glaciers and the road enough for their lowboys to continue in the rest of the way.

Their fleet of equipment consists of a D8 and ripper, D4 Cat, a 966 loader, a large grader, dump trucks, a shop truck, fuel truck and

a couple of office trailers for the Department of Transportation crew.

Betty Hickling of McCarthy Lodge says six rooms in the Ma Johnson's Hotel are being readied to serve as accommodations for the Miller-Bock crew.

The project will consist of grading, drainage and crushed aggregate surface base course on 715 feet of the road by Long Lake between Milepost 44-47. Bock said he does not expect the road to be closed due to the construction project. They expect to blade the stretch of road from Long Lake to McCarthy; it will be needed for daily commuting. However, the first part of the McCarthy Road is

not expected to be maintained regularly by Miller-Bock.

Bock said he estimated their stay in the area will be about a month and a half. They expect to have the earth work done by April 15. When finished, the approximate 800' of repaired roadway is going to be 24' wide. The hillside will be cut into 40' to 50' and an allowance made for water drainage under the road.

Top soil and seeding will be done this summer.

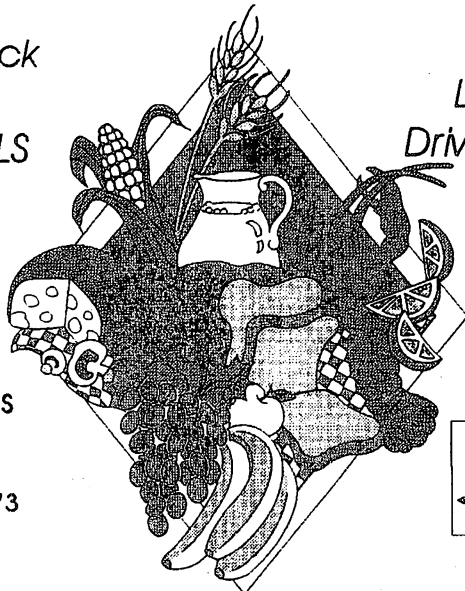
Gary Bock said he and his men are looking forward to the job and to spending time in the McCarthy area.

"Common looking people are the best in the world: that is the reason the Lord makes so many of them." — Abraham Lincoln

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OUR TOWN

March 1921 April

The only people who are not tickled to death by the near approach of spring, are the mail men and freighters who have had a considerable amount of inconvenience through overflows this week. Jim Murie took a compulsory bath last Sunday which will last him till the Fourth of July.

Mar. 5

ALASKA TO BE STUDIED

Washington, March 11th. The new Secretary of the Interior announced today that he will visit Alaska this coming summer to study conditions.

NIZINA PLACER PRODUCED \$120,000 IN 1919

The News has just received from the Department of the Interior, Bulletin 714-A. Concerning this region the following is an extract:

The productive mines of the Copper River Region in 1919 included three copper mines, one gold lode mine in the Chitina Valley and about 21 gold placer mines of the Nizina, Chistochina and Nelchina Districts.

The hydraulic placer mines of the Nizina were worked on a large scale. Gold worth about \$120,000 was recovered by seven mines operating in the summer.

About 77 men were employed and considerable placer copper was also recovered.

Mar. 12

SELF GOVERNMENT

Some day some Alaskan will go to Washington and bring back to the people of this territory the authority to exercise their right to govern themselves and the man who does that will write his name into the history of Alaska, in the hearts of Alaskans; in manner as imperishable as the name of Lewis Cass is enshrined in the history of Michigan and the hearts of those of that state. The right to self government is an American right which has been denied to the people of Alaska, and the history of the march of civilization from the Atlantic to the Pacific has demonstrated that self government is the most practicable government—the government that counts most for progress in development and builds strong self reliant men and women. (Juneau Empire)

Mar. 19

LOCAL INTEREST

Easter Sunday tomorrow. The weather man sent us a held over shipment of snow today which has certainly discouraged that spring feeling we had.

Fred Overlander is in town from Long Lake for a few days.

Bill Slimpert has accepted a position at Kennecott.

Mar. 26

FARM NEWS

Frank Iverson has recently imported from Washington a registered Duroc Jersey sow, "Washington Sensation."

This aristocratic lady is a handsome animal eleven months old, and stood the journey north very well indeed in spite of the fact that she spent 17 days in a crate.

With the importation of this fine breed hog rancher Iverson expects to materially improve the standard of pig raising here.

Bill Henry, whose ranch on Sourdough Hill has been the winter boarding place for a number of locally owned horses, is expecting to have plenty to interest him at his stud farm by August. Several colts are expected to arrive that month.

Apr. 2

COPPER SCENES TO BE FILMED

Various parts of the Copper River Railway route, along which the scenes of Rex Beach's novel 'The Iron Trail' were laid, are to be filmed this spring for the production of the play in

motion pictures which the author is preparing.

Among the special films will be the rotaries at work at the spur at mile 55, plowing out tons of snow, and the run of the ice from Copper Center to the Chitina Bridge: these take place during April as a rule and Rex Beach is sending moving picture men and apparatus to reach Cordova about the 20th.

TO HELP THE INDIANS

With its usual promptitude our local chapter of the Red Cross has come to the relief of the Copper River Indians, the Secretary having been instructed to forward the sum of \$60 to Mr. Schwartz, teacher of the Indians at Chitina.

This matter was brought to the attention of the chairman by Miss Holland, Field Representative of the American Red Cross from the headquarters of the Northwestern Division, who is touring Alaska; and has just made a trip up the Copper River where she found that the reports of the starving condition of the natives had not been one bit exaggerated. The children, of whom over forty are orphans, are practically naked and starving.

Apr. 9

LOCAL NEWS

Dan Campbell and Ed McMullen who have been connected with the

Kennecott Co. during the past year left for the interior last Sunday. both these men are experienced prospectors and are thoroughly equipped to do considerable work on Notch creek in the Chisana district. Manley Clark will be associated with them in this venture.

James Brown has left for the Chisana to round up his horses and will amble back when the green grass shows up.

Andy Taylor left with mail & freight on Sunday for the interior.

Gwinn and Backman returned Thursday from the Nizina glacier where they had delivered several tons of freight and from which place it will be relayed into Chisana by dog teams.

H. H. Mitchell, who has been in Alaska for twenty seven consecutive years has leased the Seltenreich farm on the Nizina for the summer.

Tho Mr. Mitchell owns valuable property in Florida he prefers the climate of this country and expects to be a bona fide rancher by the end of the season.

Some day we hope that the Government will offer inducements to farmers to settle in this country, such as a loan sufficient to purchase farm implements and stock, when genuine applicants require them, as it is now it costs so much money to get started that a man cannot earn enough working for wages in the winter. To equip himself to make his farm pay in less than five years, and no one with capital has ever been known to take up farming here.

Apr. 16

WOMEN JURORS

Senator Collins has introduced S.B. No. 29, conferring on women the same right and duty to serve as jurors as men now have.

Section one of this bill is as follows:

"Women who are over the age of twenty one years of age of natural faculties and of a sound mind, who have not been convicted of a felony, and who are citizens of the United States and the inhabitants of the territory of Alaska, shall have the same right and duty to serve as jurors whether grand or petit, in any court or tribunal, as men now have, provided, however that a challenge for implied bias may be exercised against a woman juror if her father, husband, son or brother sustain such relationship to either litigant that a challenge for implied bias could be exercised against him in event he were called as juror on the case."

This was referred to the Judiciary committee.

Senator Collins said: "I believe this bill will certainly pass as it has the endorsement of the great majority of the people of Alaska. The time is now ripe for this action, giving women the right to sit on juries."

Apr. 23

HELP THE TRAVELLERS

Before the Territorial Fund sack is empty, and that is likely to be soon, the people of this section of the country would like to see some provision made to subsidize a ferry over the Nizina River.

This was done in other parts of Alaska before bridges were built. On the Fairbanks and Eagle trails there were numbers of ferries maintained by the Government in earlier days, and in many places, steel cables & funds for the maintenance of ferries were furnished for the convenience of travellers.

As there is not enough income from the Nizina ferry to justify a man staying all summer, and until the bridge is built a ferry is a necessity, it seems as tho we might try to tap the Territorial fund. We do know there is great truth in the old saw, "nothing venture, nothing win."

KENNECOTT COPPER

Not Planning to Close Down Its Mines—Cost last Year Averaged 10.8 Cents.

Boston News Bureau, April 8th. According to an official of the Kennecott Copper Corporation no plans have been made to close down. Of course, to meet the production schedule adopted by leading producers late in 1920—before the final shut down—Kennecott's production was reduced considerably, but for the present it will be maintained at the current rate of 7,000,000 to 7,500,000 pounds monthly.

Had the copper market of 1920 permitted anything approaching a living for leading producers, Kennecott could have made a handsome showing of earnings.

Its annual report for last year will issue within a few days and will show an average cost for the full twelve month of 10.8 cents per pound for the 108,370,000 pounds of

copper produced including depreciation, local & federal taxes.

Electrolytic copper averaged 17.5 cents per pound in New York last year.

The market, of course, for weeks at a time was nominal and though demand was next to nothing, but it shows that the statement of President Birch of last October, that the Kennecott was then earning and had earned its quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share was no exaggeration.

With the shut down of the Utah Copper Co. the question has arisen as to the continuance of its current dividend of \$1 quarterly.

As collateral for the \$15,000,000 Kennecott bonds it has pledged 500,000 shares of its 616,000 shares of Utah stock, or roughly \$30 per share for Utah, against a current market of \$48.

At the close of last year Kennecott had abundant cash assets and with bond interest calling for only \$1,590,000 annually, it needs to earn a profit of less than one cent per pound on its production to cover interest charges.

LOCAL NEWS

Owing to the late arrival of the Northwestern at Cordova, the train which had been scheduled to arrive today with mail & passengers from that boat will not reach McCarthy till tomorrow about noon.

The McCarthy Union Sunday School has sent a donation of twenty five dollars to the Indian teacher, Paul Schwartz at Chitina, to assist the native children of the Copper River valley.

Apr. 30

Volcanoes of the Wrangells — Tanada Peak

Editors note: This is the fifth in a series of excerpts from the newly released publication GUIDE to the VOLCANOES of the WESTERN WRANGELL MOUNTAINS, ALASKA, by Donald H. Richter, Danny S. Rosenkrans, and Margaret J. Steigerwald. In our last issue we dealt with Capital Mountain. This time we'll take a look at Tanada Peak.

Tanada Peak is the erosional remnant of an andesitic volcano that is mostly older and considerably larger than its neighbor to the west, Capital volcano. The peak is the high point on a prominent, ice-free, serrated ridge that rises precipitously above a series of more gently sloping foothills.

Name.— Named in 1902 by D.C. Witherspoon, U.S. Geological Survey topographer, after nearby Tanada Lake. Ahtna name: Tanaadi Dzel' ("moving-water lake")

Type and form.— Shield volcano containing a 4-mi (6 km)-wide by 5-mi (8 km)-long summit caldera. Most of the shield

has been removed by erosion, leaving the intracaldera lava flows as present topographic high points.

Location.— 17 mi (27 km) southwest of the old Nabesna Mine at the end of the Nabesna Road at lat 62°18' N., long 143°31' W. Shown on U.S. Geological Survey Nabesna B-6 quadrangle map.

Height.— 9,358 ft (2,852 m).

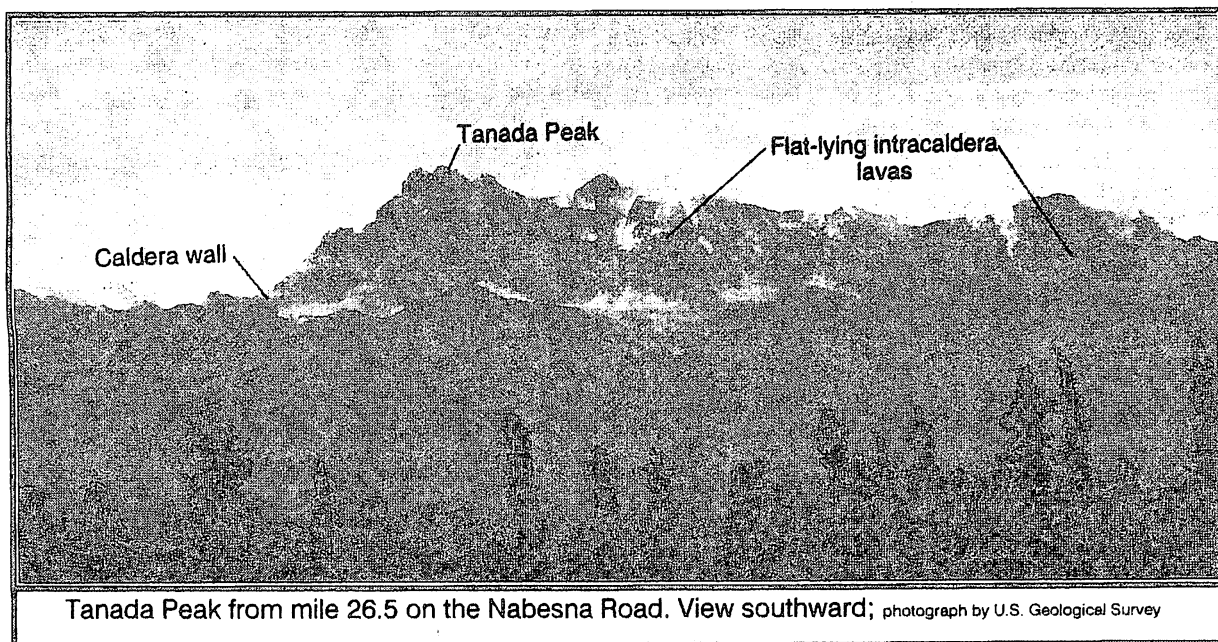
Latest eruptive activity.— An elongate cluster of andesite cones on the north flank of the Tanada shield that erupted about 970,000 years ago probably represent the latest activity of the volcano.

Volcanic history.— Tanada volcano is built on a series of lava flows, most of which are older than 1.8 million years, indicating that the volcano had its beginning sometime later, probably about 1.5 million years ago. During the next few hundred thousand years, thousands of eruptions built a large andesitic shield that may have reached an elevation of more than 10,000 ft (3,000 m). Before about 1 million years ago, the top of the shield

collapsed, forming a large summit caldera. Subsequent intracaldera eruptions filled the caldera with more than 4,000 ft (1,200 m) of andesite lavas before central-vent activity ceased. A few dikes that cut both the shield and intracaldera lavas may be related to the eruptive activity responsible for the late cinder cones on the volcano's north flank.

Glaciers.— A few small glaciers that occupy some of the deep valleys in Tanada Peak's summit area are remnants of much larger alpine glaciers that 100,000 years ago covered most of the volcano and were responsible for carving away much of the volcano's shield.

Best viewing.— Tanada Peak can best be seen along the first 30 mi of the Nabesna Road, which extends eastward off the Tok Cutoff of the Glenn Highway at the village of Slana. An excellent viewpoint is at Long Lake (mile 23.5) on the Nabesna Road.



Tanada Peak from mile 26.5 on the Nabesna Road. View southward; photograph by U.S. Geological Survey

Chemistry in Kennicott

BY TRIG TRIGIANO

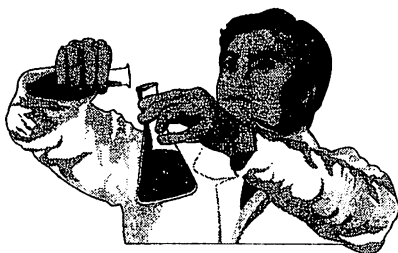
Last summer, I volunteered to present a chemistry demonstration for the Kennicott/McCarthy area kids. After protracted negotiations with Stacie Miller, I put together a set of demonstrations that met with her approval. It appeared that Stacie had serious reservations about doing things that might maim, injure or mutate her brothers. I was also hoping to hold the event during the American Chemical Society's National Chemistry Week (November 5 - 11). Unfortunately, I was unable to get out to McCarthy until Thanksgiving break so I presented the show on Friday, November 24th.

Keeping in mind Stacie's overly protective attitude towards her younger brothers, I asked Chris Richards to be my assistant, a somewhat dangerous position. Now... Chris is no "Tool Time" Pam Anderson (assistant on "Home Improvement"), but he knows more than anyone else in the area about things that go boom! This quality made Chris a logical choice for an expendo-assistant.

The demonstrations were attended by four kids overwintering in the area, their Moms and one big sister. Evidently, the dads were busy attending to important domestic chores like trying to figure out how to get to the wood lots on their snow machines when there wasn't enough snow on the trails. It seems that dads best contemplate conundrums of this nature when seated in front of a TV showing strangely dressed men banging into each other and passing around an oblong ball!

I decided to base my demonstrations on exothermic reactions that give off heat and sometimes

explode and endothermic reactions that take in heat from their environment and get cold. According to Stacie, the kids would be particularly fond of the things that explode. Also keeping in mind Stacie's concerns, I provided all the observers with goggles and ear plugs.



One demonstration involved the use of chemical cold and hot packs which are used for first aid treatment. The kids seemed to be familiar with the packs and anticipated the outcome of activating the packs by breaking their inner pouches and mixing the contents. After showing them the commercially prepared packs, I proceeded to demonstrate the same reactions in beakers using the same constituent chemical reagents. Into one beaker, I mixed water with dry calcium chloride which is commonly known as road salt or ice melt. The beaker became warm to the touch. Into another beaker, I mixed some ammonium nitrate with water. Ammonium nitrate is a common fertilizer and was also one of the active ingredients in the Oklahoma City bombing. The kids thought that there would be an explosion, but instead the beaker got cold!

Another experiment involved making a simple explosive. By mixing iodine crystals with ammonia, I prepared a precipitate of nitrogen triiodide or "feather powder." When feather powder

dries, it is extremely unstable and can be detonated with the touch of a feather, thus the name. Because of the cold weather, the powder did not dry quickly so I resorted to using the school house's wood stove to accelerate the process. After drying for a few minutes on the stove, the feather powder was detonated using a feather voluntarily obtained from one of the Miller's chickens who survived Thanksgiving. The resulting sharp crack and purple cloud was enjoyed by all except for one mom who cowered in the corner of the school house.

Again because of the cold weather, a climbing snake experiment reacted slowly. Into a beaker, I mixed some sugar and sulfuric acid or battery acid. Sugar is basically made of water and carbon. When mixed with battery acid, the sugar is dehydrated producing heat and a growing column or climbing snake of black carbon residue.

Since the kids seemed to like pyrotechnics, I decided to perform a volcano experiment. Outside the school house, I ignited a beaker of ammonium dichromate (an orange colored chemical) using a brightly burning strip of magnesium ribbon. When ammonium dichromate burns, it produces a dark green ash that flows and swells like an erupting volcano. Since the ash product is considered a hazardous waste, I decided to bring it back to Anchorage for appropriate disposal.

The volcano ended the demonstrations and the kids and moms appeared to have enjoyed the show. Now ... if any of the kids grow extra limbs or otherwise mutate, please don't blame me as I took reasonable safety precautions.

instead, consider Stacie Miller's cooking to be the most likely cause.

All joking aside, I enjoyed contributing to the kids' entertainment and education and I hope to provide more demonstrations for them when I come out again. I'd

even like to try being a teacher or guest lecturer in the home school when I finally retire in the McCarthy area.

If any of the kids or parents have questions and they have access to a computer with a

modem, they can reach me on the Internet at ANGLT@ORION.ALASKA.EDU. Alternately they can send their questions and comments to: Kneecaps-R-Us, P. O. Box 771182, Eagle River, AK 99577-1182.

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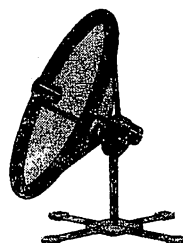
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Camp life in McCarthy—a lively tale

Editor's note: The following material was taken from an article that appeared in The Great Lander Shopping News, November 22, 1978. The Shopping News is no longer in publication. Herb Rhodes was the editor and is now owner of the Anchorage Printing Company. Jean Anderson Graves, daughter of Anton Anderson, lives in Anchorage. She hopes to eventually publish a book based on her dad's diaries. WSEN thanks Jean for submitting the article and Herb for giving us permission to use the information.

Back when steam engines huffed and puffed their way through Alaska's Interior, Anton Anderson, alias "Mr. Alaska Railroad," was becoming a legend in the Northland.

Building wagon roads into the "most unknown and unexplored regions of Alaska," Anderson was an engineer for the war department in 1924. In addition to wage and price scales of the era—blacksmithing paid the highest wages during the summer of 1924 at McCarthy where 'smithies' could work their way up to earning \$205 a month—Anderson's carefully kept journal includes a colorful account of camp justice which he faithfully recorded as the action ensued.

That summer of 1924, Anderson was headquartered in McCarthy where he was in charge of constructing a half-mile bridge across the Nizina River. "Work was often marred by dust storms rising from the Nizina River Bed," he wrote, "where it is exceedingly hot and has been parched by the hot sun."

Anderson was as hard a worker as any of his crew, as ready with a shovel and axe as with the compass

and line. Lending a hand whenever it was needed in the field, Anderson was often found "mucking on the rock out with the boys" or "working on the grade, handling powder."

He never asked a man to do a thing he wouldn't do himself and for work, well done, he was the first to give the hearty cheer. But when situations dictated, he could throw a punch just as well as the rest of 'em.

Such were conditions on one August 21, 1924—the day he had decided to "can Jack Hayes." In his words: "I asked Hayes in to sign the payroll which he did. I then asked him to sign his time check which he also did. He then asked what all this was about and I told him."

"He got me a crack on the temple, I clinched and he grabbed me by the throat and nearly put me over the great divide. He then pounded my face to pulp when Arthur McDonnell, Dud McKinney and Ira McCoid came and pulled him off."

Taken by surprise, Anderson wrote in his journal that he was in "awful shape" but was willing to "fight his adversary squarely" and offered to do so.

"He (Hayes) said he would have to put on his shoes and went into his own little tent." But when he returned, Hayes not only was well-shoed but well-armed as well. Hayes shortly emerged "with a stick of stove wood which he held over me in a threatening manner."

The case was set for the next morning, but was postponed until the next Sunday, giving time for Anderson to recuperate while Hayes "whooped it up."

The jury for the initial trial was "sure a bum lot," according to

Anderson. "The final ballot was eight to four for not guilty."

When Anderson heard about the verdict, he immediately rode the train up to Kennecott and "decided to give Hayes another shot with a Kennecott Jury."

Again, the next day, Hayes and Anderson sparred off in court.

"This trial came off in fine shape," Anderson wrote. "The jury was not long in bringing a verdict of guilty." Jack Hayes had refused to answer the questions put to him and got in duteh with the jury on that account.

During his long and colorful career, Anderson ranged over most of what was then the Territory of Alaska. "I think I walked over more of Alaska than any man since Alfred Brooks," he once said. Brooks was the explorer for whom the range was named.

The native New Zealander's lifelong trek led him into public service, earning him notoriety as "Mr. Alaska Railroad." On May 17, 1924 his diary reads: "This day seven years ago, I started to work for the (Alaska Road) Commission as axeman on a survey part, Mile 86, Turnagain Arm."

He sought routes for the Alaska Railroad before the Iron Horse stomped and steamed to the Interior. He surveyed and engineered much of the line. He became ARR chief engineer. Anderson was with the Alaska Railroad when moss was first scrapped from the ice along the Cook Inlet right-of-way. Earlier he had surveyed the townsite of Anchorage that replaced the burgeoning tent camp on the flats of Ship Creek. Later he served as location engineer for the Matanuska

Valley colonization project and during World War II, it was Anton Anderson who pierced three miles of solid granite to open the Port of Whittier to the railbelt. During the 1950's he served the growing Anchorage metropolis as mayor.

But the feat which he considered to be the greatest achievement of his professional career was to construct the Whittier Railroad Tunnels. The tunnels now bear his name on a bronze plaque above their entrances — the man who engineered the project through the solid granite of the Chugach Range.

Drilling crews operated from both sides of the mountain and bored toward the middle, where they were to meet. Anderson was at

the end of one of the shafts, deep in the mountain, when the holing through was about to occur. Under the pounding of air hammers, rocks gave way and through a small hole at his feet, Anderson could shout through to the drilling crew on the other side.

"Where'd it come through?" Back came a muffled reply: "It's up by our heads!"

Anderson was stunned. What had happened to his careful surveys, the figures determined by triangulation over the tops of a high mountain? Actually, the two shafts were off only about six inches, an unusual degree of accuracy for such as difficult feat of engineering. Though he was able to laugh about

it later, the joke pulled by the boring crew seemed catastrophic at the time.

In the years preceding his retirement, Anton Anderson was identified most with the railroad. He maintained an office at the railroad headquarters, even after his formal retirement. He maintained his sense of humor, even while fighting Parkinson's disease that slowed his walk to a painful shuffle.

It was because of his illness that Anderson resigned as mayor of Anchorage. He died in 1961, one of a rare breed that laid the very foundations of modern Alaska.

BLM seeks volunteer campground hosts

Would you like to spend your summer living and working on the edge of the Alaska wilderness? The Bureau of Land Management is soliciting applications for volunteer campground hosts in the 49th state for the summer of 1996.

General duties of campground hosts typically include answering questions, providing information, and explaining Wild and Scenic River use policy, light maintenance, observing and recording visitor counts, and gathering visitor information. In campgrounds where fees are charged, the host encourages fee payment.

Campground hosts provide their own RV, motorhome, or trailer in which to live. BLM provides a host campsite, a daily stipend, and mileage reimbursement.

Hosts are needed at the Sourdough Creek Campground near Glennallen at mile 147 of the Richardson Highway; near Paxson at the Paxson Lake Campground at mile 175 of the Richardson Highway and Tangle Lake and

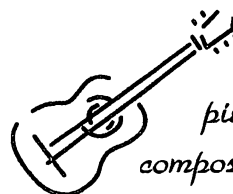
Tangle River campgrounds at mile 22 of the Denali Highway. Contact Marcia Butorac, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Bureau of Land Management, Glennallen District, by writing to P.O. Box 147, Glennallen, Alaska 99588-0147, or calling (907) 822-3217.

Hosts are also needed near Eagle, at the Eagle Campground, as well as the West Fork Campground at mile 49 of the Taylor Highway and the Walker Fork Campground at mile 82 of the Taylor Highway. Contact Jeff Roach, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Bureau of Land Management, Fortymile Area Team, by writing

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Air Taxi's celebrate

BY BONNIE KENYON

Security Aviation of Anchorage and Ellis Air Taxi, Inc. of Gulkana are celebrating 3 years of scheduled air service from Anchorage to McCarthy.

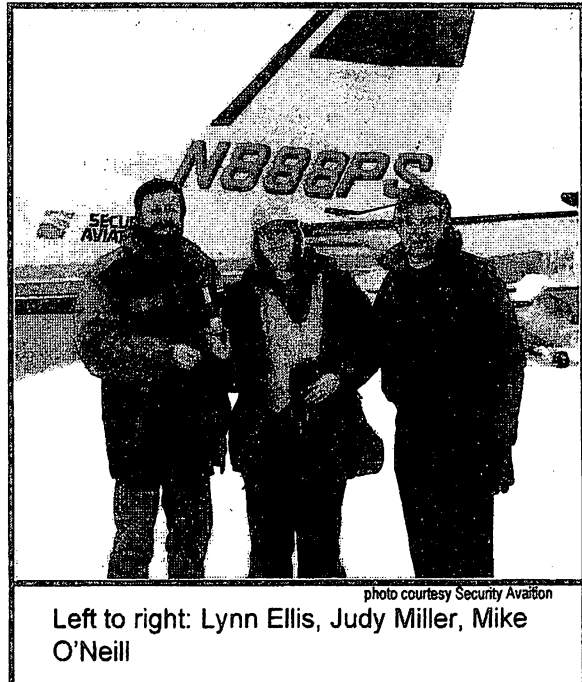
Ever since January 16, 1993, McCarthy and Kennicott area residents and visitors alike have been able to choose the 3 hour flight rather than an 8 hour drive. As Mike O'Neill, president of Security says, "Beat the long, slow road drive — charter Security!"

Once Security delivers you to Ellis Air Taxi located on the Gulkana Airfield, Lynn Ellis — McCarthy's official mail carrier and owner of Ellis Air — takes you the rest of the way. Many are taking

advantage of this year 'round Wednesday and Friday service.

May Creek is also on the flight pattern. According to Mike, Judy Miller was their first passenger to use the scheduled flight.

As anyone who has flown with our "mail pilot" Lynn Ellis can tell you, "Now that's worth doing again!" Mike is quick to add: "Safety is a big factor with Security."



Congratulations, Mike and Lynn; we appreciate you!

Environmental re-evaluation of footbridge project sought

BY RICK KENYON

At least one McCarthy resident remains unhappy with the decision by DOT/PF to build a pedestrian-only bridge across the Kennicott River. Gary Hickling aired his views on the public radio station KCHU during a special 2 hour COFFEE BREAK program during January.

Hickling has asked Governor Knowles to look into the decision, charging that during the public comment period "a special interest group monopolized the process, manipulating the public and the

DOT/PF." He is asking for an environmental reevaluation of the project.

"Unfortunately, the environmental assessment currently provided by DOT/PF relating to this project does not address the impact of the lack of adequate access to McCarthy," says Hickling in his request to the governor. "Projections relating to the increase in the number of visitors and landowners in McCarthy over the next several years were not sufficiently considered prior to DOT/PF's decision. Without those projections, health and safety issues

relating to the increased need for food, fuel, supplies, safe drinking water and solid waste management can not be properly assessed."

As an alternative to the footbridge, Hickling proposes that the McCarthy Scenic Road Study be extended to include the existing 20 mile right-of-way east of the Kennicott River and south of May Creek, giving visitors access to more of the national park. "Access into McCarthy could then be provided by a footbridge across McCarthy Creek," says Hickling.

Information

Representative Irene Nicholia announces she has a new toll free number. It is 1-800-491-4527.

Rep. Nicholia's staff consists of Pat Jackson, Lisa McLaren and Mary Sattler. Pat works on the bills scheduled in the Resources Committee and

the state operating and capital budgets. Lisa is in charge of scheduling and is up on the issues of health and social services. Mary monitors the bills scheduled in the Community and Regional Affairs Committee, the Fish and Game budget and also works on Rep. Nicholia's personal legislation.

You may contact Rep. Nicholia at the following address: State Capitol, Room 501, Juneau, AK 99801. Phone No. 465-4527. FAX: 465-2197. E-Mail address: Representative_Irene_Nicholia@Legis.state.ak.us
McCarthy is within House District 36.

Reader asks for Genealogy information

Dear Editor:

I am looking for Genealogy information on the following surnames:

SURNAMES:

HALL: Pre-1860
CENSUS-CENTER TOWNSHIP,
COLUMBIA COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

Pre-1870 CENSUS-MT.
PLEASANT TOWNSHIP,
COLUMBIA COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

Pre-1867 - CATAWISA
(LISTED ON MARRIAGE OF
GEO HALL AND RACHEL
HAWK.)

CRAGLE: Pre-1830
CENSUS-UNION TOWNSHIP,
LUZERNE COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

Pre-1850-60 CENSUS
HUNLOCK TOWNSHIP,
LUZERNE COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

SORBER: Pre-1840
CENSUS-PLYMOUTH
TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Pre-1850 CENSUS-UNION
TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Pre-1850 CENSUS-NEWPORT
TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
(CAME FROM NORTHAMP-
TON COUNTY, PA IN 1783; OF
GERMAN DESCENT)

CULP: Pre-1850 CENSUS-UNION
TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

CRANE: Pre-1880
CENSUS-HUNLOCK
TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
(BIRTH PLACE LISTED
AS NEW JERSEY)

PATTEN: Pre-1870
CENSUS-PLY.TOWNSHIP,
LUZERNE COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA
(BIRTH PLACE - NORTH-
UMBERLAND COUNTY,
ENGLAND; CAME TO U.S.
PRE-1863)

ELLIS: Pre-1870
CENSUS-PLY.TOWNSHIP,
LUZERNE COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

(BIRTH PLACE:
NOTINGHAMSHIRE,
ENGLAND; CAME TO U.S.
PRE-1863)

SWELGIN, KRUGER,
PUDIMOTT: Pre-1900 All from
West Prussia, Germany

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(continued from page 14)

also looking at alternate methods of dealing with these problems in the future and feels it is not necessary to have vehicle access all year. Kirkwood concluded, "The upgrade of the road is a safety issue and the road must be repaired."

Bob Ruby, Federal Highway Administration, was next to speak, and he said that his agency had been required to take a hard look at the foot bridge as opposed to a vehicle bridge. Since most of the funding comes from his agency, the letters from the residences in favor of the foot bridge made the final decision.

Art Koeninger, from Chitina, next stated that the upgrade of the McCarthy Road would greatly impact his community. He felt the greatest impact would be in emergency medical and fire services and Chitina would not be

able to handle this without help from the state.

At this point Dennerlein brought up the growth issue again. "Rail or road — people will come anyway. The safety issue along the road, and the safety of the residences must be addressed. New services will be needed, and who will build and manage these services."

Bob Jacobs was the last to speak and he stated that the McCarthy community was forced to play catch up on most issues. Instead of planning for an issue they are forced to find the easiest and

fastest solution. "We have good ideas," said Jacobs, "but no time to implement them. We need time as a community to deal with these problems so we can come up with constructive solutions."

In summary, Dennerlein stated that safety improvement is the primary concern of the project. Infrastructure must also be given a close look. "The foot bridge will be built and we must learn to adapt."

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Soups on!

BY BONNIE KENYON

For those of you who are Cooking with Carly fans, I certainly am not taking Carly's place — only filling in for her. Carly and Ken are visiting friends and family in the lower 48.

Homemade soup is a favorite in our home, especially during the long, cold winter months. We grow many of our own vegetables in the summer. Broccoli, cauliflower, green beans, peas, and spinach are frozen.

Potatoes, carrots, parsnips, onions and cabbage are harvested in the fall and stored in our hillside root cellar.

Beets and cucumbers are pickled which are a treat in the winter. I grow tomatoes in the greenhouse and either can or freeze them. Tomatoes can be popped whole into a freezer bag and frozen. I just remove the amount I need, let them sit on the counter a few minutes and peel them with a paring knife. I cut them up and toss 'em in my soup pot.

Herbs such as oregano, thyme, sage, parsley, basil and celery are grown fresh every summer in the garden and air dried inside the cabin.

Well, here goes! I trust you enjoy these hearty soups as much as Rick and I do.

Fresh Cauliflower Soup

- 1 small cauliflower (in the winter I use a couple packages of frozen)
- 1 small onion thinly sliced
- 1/4 tsp. dried thyme leaves
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 1 Tbsp. flour

- 1 tsp. salt
- Dash of nutmeg and dash of black or white pepper
- 2 cups light cream (I use a combination of evaporated milk and Milkman)
- 1 cup shredded cheese
- Chopped fresh parsley (I use dried parsley in the winter)

Combine cauliflowerettes in a large saucepan with onion, thyme and chicken broth. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat. Simmer, partially covered, until the cauliflower is tender — about 10 minutes. You can transfer the cauliflower to a blender and puree or, if you don't have a blender (like me), you can use a hand potato masher and break up the cauliflower into small pieces.

In a 3-4 quart saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Stir in flour, salt, nutmeg and pepper. Cook until bubbly. Remove from heat. Gradually mix in milk. Cook, stirring constantly until it boils. Add this cream sauce to the cauliflower.

Add the cheese and stir until it melts. Cook until heated through. Sprinkle with parsley and serve.

Barley Burger Soup

- 1 lb. hamburger, moose or caribou burger
- 1/2 cup chopped celery or I use a handful of dried celery leaves
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup diced carrots
- 1/3 cup barley
- 1 pkg. of dried onion soup mix or 4 beef bouillon cubes
- 1 15 oz. can of tomato sauce or tomato soup
- 3 cups of water
- 2/3 cup uncooked macaroni (optional)

Brown burger in a skillet. Season meat with garlic and/or onion salt. Drain off grease. Put burger and rest of ingredients, except for the macaroni, in a large saucepan. Boil hard about 15 minutes. Simmer for a couple of hours.

If you decide to use the macaroni, you may need to add more water to the soup. Cook another ten minutes until the macaroni is tender. Other times, I may just add leftover vegetables—corn or green beans. Add salt to taste.

My neighbor, Dee Frady, gets all the credit for this next recipe. She shared it with me shortly after she and Terry moved here 11 years ago. I've been making it ever since and the only deviation I make is to double the ingredients so it lasts longer!

Dee's Corn Chowder

- 2 cups milk (I combine evaporated, whole and/or Milkman)
- 1 cup water
- 3 Tbsp. butter
- 1 15 oz. can cream style corn
- 4 medium-large potatoes, diced
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- Dash of pepper and paprika

Combine milk, water, butter and corn in large saucepan. Cook over medium heat. Add diced potatoes and onion. Add salt, pepper and paprika. Stir well.

Cover and reduce heat to low. Cook 30 to 45 minutes (until potatoes and onion are soft).

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Scholarship competition announced

The law firm of Hughes Thorsness Gantz Powell & Brundin LLC has announced its seventh annual essay competition for three scholarships totaling \$3500. The competition is open to all graduating seniors in Alaska planning to attend a nationally accredited college or university next fall.

One grand prize scholarship of \$1500 will go to the student who writes the best essay. Scholarships of \$1000 each will be awarded to two additional winners.

The essay topic this year is: "Alaska's Challenge: Bringing Basic Services and Education To Rural Alaska."

"This timely and important topic should challenge our brightest graduating seniors and give the leaders of our state the benefit of their ideas and creativity," said Jim

Seedorf, managing partner of Hughes Thorsness.

The deadline for submitting an essay is March 11, 1996. Essays must be limited to 750 words and must be accompanied by a submission form available at all high schools in the state or by calling Hughes Thorsness at 274-7522. Or, students may make their own submission form by attaching a separate sheet of paper to their essays that has on it the student's name, address, phone number, high school, parent or guardian name(s), and choice of college.

Winners will be notified by April 15, 1996, and publicly announced with photos. All essays become the property of Hughes Thorsness. Winners must provide five small photos. Scholarships will be paid to the student's college or

university upon proof of enrollment. Interested students, parents, and teachers with questions are encouraged to contact the firm.

Last year's winners came from all over the state. The grand prize winner was Ryan Balliet of Bethel Regional High. Five additional winners were Peter Wright, Robert Service High and Monica Aufrechet of Stellar Secondary School in Anchorage; William Carson, Colony High School, Wasilla; Gillian Eversman, Ben Eilson Jr./Sr. High School, Salcha; and Erika Faerber, Susitna Valley High of Trapper Creek.

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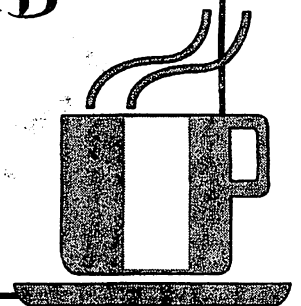
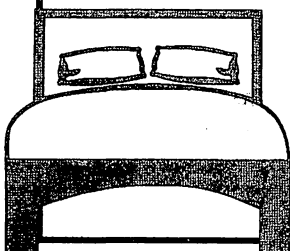
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A look at the weather

BY GEORGE CEBULA

December at McCarthy started out on the cold side for the first ten days and the rest of the month saw average temperatures. January turned out to be the coldest since 1969. Precipitation was light in December and about average in January.

The average December temperature was -5.1 (0.3 in Dec. '94 and 7.9 in Dec. '93). The high was 31 on December 31 (36 on Dec. 12, '94 and 38 on Dec. 23, '93) and the low was -46 on December 6 (-38 on Dec. 2, '94 and -31 on Dec. 14, '93). Twenty days had readings below zero and one day the high did get above 30. *Silver Lake had an average temperature of -6.5 (9.8 in Dec. '94 and 15.5 in Dec. '93) with a high of 31 on Dec. 25 (42 on Dec. 5, '94 and 39 on Dec. 7, '93) and a low of -44 on Dec. 6 & 7 (-34 on Dec. 9, '94 and -25 on Dec. 16, '93).*

December precipitation was very light with only 0.29 inches of liquid precipitation (1.01 in Dec. '94 and 1.71 in Dec. '93). All precipitation fell as snow with only 1.8 inches (11.8 inches in Dec. '94). The snow depth was 4 inches at the beginning of the month and 3 inches on the last day. *By comparison Silver Lake only had 0.11 inches of liquid precipitation (0.65*

in Dec. '94 and 0.52 in Dec. '93) and only 1.0 inch of snow (4.0 in Dec. '94 and a trace in Dec. '93). The snow depth was 5 inches for the entire month.

1996 at McCarthy began on the warm side with 9 inches of snow by January 11th. The bottom of the thermometer dropped out on the 12th and for the next 18 days the temperature never got above -27. The average temperature from January 12th to the 29th was -38.3. The coldest reading was -54 the morning of the 20th. This was the longest stretch of frigid cold since the 20 days in January '69.

The average January temperature at McCarthy was a cold -23.7 (-2.6 in Jan '95 and 2.9 in Jan '94). The high was 16 on January 1 & 2 (33 on Jan 22, '95 and 40 on Jan 28, '94). The low was -54 on January 20 (-30 on Jan 11, '95 and -38 on Jan 9, '94). This was the coldest reading since the -55 on January 25, '93 and only 4 degrees from the all time low of -57 on January 11, '72. The low was -36 or colder for 18 days.

The cold was not confined to McCarthy. The average January temperature at Silver Lake was -25.5 and at KCAM in Glennallen it was -26.0. Silver Lake had a low of -52 on 7 different days and KCAM recorded a low of -54 on January 20

and 21. KCAM had 13 days with the low -50 or colder. By comparison the Gulkana Airport only recorded -50 on one day and -49 on another. The rest were -47 or warmer. January 1996 will be remembered as the cold one.

The precipitation at McCarthy in January was about average with all of it occurring in the first eleven days. The total liquid precipitation was 0.71 inches (0.55 in Jan '95 and 1.19 in Jan '94). Snowfall was 9.3 inches (5.4 in Jan '95 and 12.9 in Jan '94). The year started with a 3 inch snow cover, increased to 12 inches from the 11th - 14th and then finished the rest of the month at 11 inches. *Silver Lake had less precipitation with only 0.43 liquid and 3.5 inches of snow. Snow depth at Silver Lake was 5 inches on the 1st increased to 9 inches by the 7th and ended the month at 9 inches. KCAM had 0.58 inches of liquid with 6.7 inches of snow. The snow depth at KCAM was 1 inch on the 1st increased to 7 inches by the 9th and ended the month with 7 inches.*

The temperature continued to warm in early February with readings in the high 30's by February 7th and plenty of new snow. It rained on February 10th and this really made a mess of the snow cover.



(continued from page 30)
wind. The man did as he was told and returned to the rabbi. He asked, "Am I now forgiven?"

"Almost," came the response. "You just have to perform one last task: Go and gather all the feathers."

"But that's impossible," the man protested, "for the wind has already scattered them."

"Precisely," the rabbi answered.

(Condensed and reprinted with permission from IMPRIMIS, the monthly journal of Hillsdale College.)

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin addresses an issue of personal responsibility that is fundamental not only to our civil society but to our humanity: the ethics of speech. He reminds us that the Golden Rule should apply not just to how we act toward others but how we speak about them. His presentation was delivered during the September 1995 Center for Constructive Alternatives seminar "Fiction and Faith".

Over the past decade, whenever I have lectured throughout the country on the powerful, and often negative, impact of words, I have asked audiences if they can go for twenty-four hours without saying any unkind words about, or to, anybody. Invariably, a minority of listeners raise their hands signifying "yes," some laugh, and quite a large number call out, "no!"

I respond by saying, "Those who can't answer 'yes' must recognize that you have a serious problem. If you cannot go for twenty four hours without saying unkind words about others, then you have lost control over your tongue."

Just think about your own life for a minute. Unless you, or someone dear to you, has been the victim of terrible physical violence, chances are the worst pains you have suffered in life have come from words used cruelly—from ego destroying criticism, excessive anger, sarcasm, public and private humiliation, hurtful nicknames, betrayal of secrets, rumors, and malicious gossip.

Testing Your Speech

There is no area of life in which so many of us systematically

violate the Golden Rule. Thus if you were about to enter a room and heard the people inside talking about you, chances are what you would least like to hear them talking about are your character flaws and the intimate details of your social life. Yet, when you are with friends and the conversation turns to people not present, what aspects of their lives are you and your companions most likely to explore? Is it not their character flaws and the intimate details of their social lives?

All too often, many of us criticize others with harsh, offensive words, turn disputes into quarrels, belittle or humiliate others, and inflict wounds that last a lifetime.

The Power of Words

One reason that many otherwise "good" people use words irresponsibly and cruelly is that they regard the injuries inflicted by words as intangible and therefore minimize the damage they can inflict. For generations, children taunted by playmates have been taught to respond, "Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words (or names) can never hurt me." But does anyone really think that a child exposed to such abuse believes it?

An old Jewish teaching compares the tongue to an arrow: "Why not another weapon - a sword, for example?" one rabbi asks. "Because," he is told, "if a man unsheathes his sword to kill his friend, and his friend pleads with him and begs for mercy, the man may be mollified and return the sword to its scabbard. But an arrow once it is shot, cannot be returned."

The rabbi's comparison is more than just a useful metaphor.

Because words can be used to inflict devastating and irrevocable suffering, Jewish teachings go so far as to compare cruel words to murder. A penitent thief can return the money he has stolen; a murderer, no matter how sincerely he repents, cannot restore his victim to life. Similarly one who damages another's reputation through malicious gossip or who humiliates another publicly, can never fully undo the damage.

Words, quite simply, are very powerful. Indeed, the Bible teaches that God created the world through words. At the beginning of Genesis we learn, "And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." I would submit that human beings, like God, also create with words. Consider the fact that most, if not all, of us have had the experience of reading a novel and being so moved by the fate of a character that we have cried, even though the character who has so moved us doesn't exist. All that happened was that writer took a blank piece of paper, put words on it, and through words alone created a human being so totally real that he or she is capable of evoking our deepest emotions.

Words are powerful enough to lead to love, but they can also lead to hatred and terrible pain. We must be extremely careful how we use them.

A Jewish folk tale, set in nineteenth century Eastern Europe, tells of a man who went through a small community slandering the rabbi. One day, feeling suddenly remorseful, he begged the rabbi for forgiveness and offered to undergo any form of penance to make amends. The rabbi told him to take a feather pillow from his home, cut it open, scatter the feathers to the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

February 7, 1996

Copper Center, AK

Dear WSEN & McCarthy people,

KCHU had a talk-call in show about the bridge issue. I phoned in to say that Williamsburg is in reality a public town, that access is controlled. I'm just an observer. When their appeal for a contribution to the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation came I thought you might be interested in the address.

I visited Williamsburg in 1955 and 1982. The restoration began in the 1930's. It was much more complete in the latter visit. It is a sort of theme park. The visitor access is at a "center" with explanatory displays, ticket sales booths and parking. The public then walks ¼ or ½ mile on a paved road under a railroad underpass - the old railroad embankment serves as a "wall" separating the town from the service area and is a visual barrier. Upon wandering the streets among the mostly reconstructed buildings I discovered on the edges of the area houses of an 1890-1900 vintage with signs saying "Private Residence KEEP OUT." They simply had residential or landscape type fences and gates, otherwise they look like any home as found in small town America.

As I recall the tourist businesses all closed at 6 p.m. and the private residences could drive to their homes. Of course emergency vehicles had access to the town at all times. I inquired about how it was arranged. "Through zoning and curfew laws," I was told. The foundation only bought up the properties - not the streets and public places.

To see if their method of operation could help McCarthy & Kennicott preserve the exclusion of tourist vehicles, inquiries to the foundation might be instructive.

Their address is:

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187

Sincerely,
Sam Lightwood

January 7, 1996

Anchorage, AK

Dear Bonnie and Rick,

Just got my WSEN a couple of days ago and we have both been reading it avidly. It's better than ever!

The Bonanza-Motherlode history was exceptional. I've had so many questions about the mines, and Ronald answered a lot of them. I may have known them once, but so long ago I'd forgotten. I surely look forward to seeing the mines in miniature. I did see something on TV about the miniatures of the Kennecott-McCarthy area and hope to see them all when done.

I so enjoyed seeing letters from Jim McGavock, Nan Henderson, and Mildred Reis. Also I knew Carol Olson and hadn't heard of her family since they left Kennecott, a new name to include in Reunions. I always look to see what the latest news on the Church is too. I surely hope we make it up there in 1996. Thanks again for a wonderful publication.

Oh yes, we received a new book from Fred Williams, "Iron Rails to Alaskan Copper," by Alfred O.

Quinn. Have you seen it? It's very interesting and complete. It was printed by Maverick Publications, Inc. P.O. Box 5007, Bend, Oregon 97708.

Blessed New Year,
Charlie and Inger Ricci

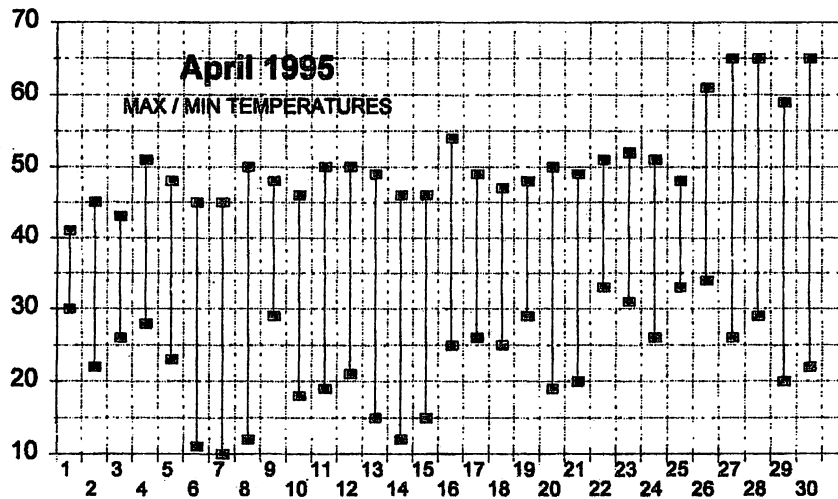
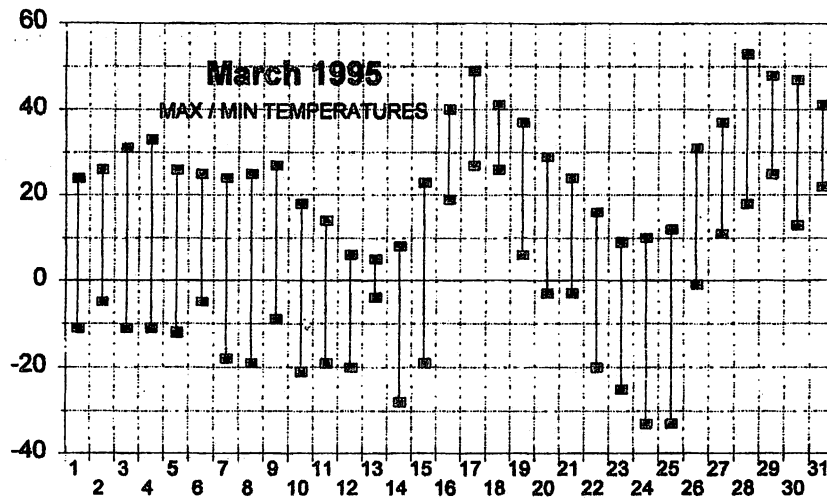
Penticton, BC Canada
Hello Rick and Bonnie Kenyon:

I have recently received a gift subscription to the Wrangell St. Elias News. This subscription was from Charlie and Inger Ricci. The following is some background of my past. I was born in the Kennicott Hospital on December 27, 1925. My Dad amongst other things was owner-publisher of the McCarthy Times. He was killed on the Richardson Hwy. in late 1926. At that time my mother decided to take me and take a trip to British Columbia with the intention of returning to McCarthy after a holiday.

I am a member of the Alaska Yukon Pioneers, as is Inger. I had intentions of taking a trip back to Alaska and the McCarthy area for many years, but it was 1991 before I did so. At that time my wife and I spent 10 weeks travelling with truck and 5th wheel. My main intention was returning to McCarthy and Kennicott, which we did. But we did not have time to stay more than a couple of days. Enjoyed the issue received and am looking forward to the past and future ones.

Cliff Marwood

Weather - What can we expect?



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