

Here's a Pioneer tapes - Tape 2, Side 1-Cut 1

Side 1 - Charlie Jones interview (7-4-54 and 1-6-55) - Territorial Senator from 2nd Division - Nome. 1913 - member of 1st Alaska Legislature - interviewed on his way to Juneau to Legislative Council.

54 years in Alaska, joined Republican Party 1st year in Alaska.

Discusses organizing of Legislature: mentions another name. Milo Delly - Knik (Oregon Legislature), Judge Buenner from Nome has served in other legislatures, H. T. Ray - President of Senate.

Henry Roden, Dan Sutherland, Henry Collins (?), and Jones only ones still alive.

1913 - did not know what taxes could raise. Wickersham bill said federal officials could have additional duties assigned by state legislature. Were successful in collecting more money than they spent. 1915 legislature had money to work with.

Voting precincts hard to define.

Jones defeated after that and then too busy to run again.

Appointed U.S. Marshall and acted as supt. of Alaska Road Commission. Prospected in winter. Had 2 girls and 1 boy.

Marshall - appointed by Judge Loman on death of Griffin (Coolidge admin). 9 years as marshall of 2nd division.

Prohibition Era so marshall was strenuous job - had to be careful about search and seizure.

2nd Division was created during gold strike at Nome. Describes a bad judge (Noyes?) and in 1900-01 marshall law was declared. Army established Ft. Davis with 2 companies.

Nome Strike - Lindenberg hired to teach Eskimos to hunt reindeer. ? had learned mining in Michigan. 3rd man had jumped ship at Teller. Came to Swedish mission at Golovin and missionary staked them. Storm forced them to land where Nome is - Anvil Creek and Snow Gulch. Staked claim - didn't know how to set up mining district. Gabe Price had been sent by Charles E. Lane to investigate strike reports at Council. Price helped them stake claims - Lane brought in company to work claims.

Much litigation over 2nd and 3rd beach lines.

Big boom was 1900 digging on the beach - could make \$25-\$100/ day on beach.

"I believe in gold as basis for money" rather than paper stuff. Also against credit. Make our own basis for money and other countries will soon come to it!

Unhappy that gold you mined wasn't yours.

Tape 2, Side 1-Cut 2

Side 1 - Frank Thieson interview (1-8-55) - This past year (1953) gold mining very high.

Thieson came to Fairbanks in 1922; to Juneau in 1912.

Here's a Pioneer tapes - Tape 2, Side 1-Cut 2

Side 1 - Frank Thieson interview (1-8-55), continued - FE just taking over Fairbanks in 1922. Stayed 'til '25 went to Koyocook. Partner Durand opened up Slate Creek "this summer" - had been hand work before. (Mentions one other set of partners on Mascot Creek)

Used tractors - (dredge) works better where ground is shallow..

Strandbergs at Utopia Creek have washing - (names of others). All these are placer miners.

Only 3 load mines because so expensive. Chandalar (Gov. Silzer) had quartz and load mine. Takes more of a crew and expensive to ship out by plane.

Future - prospecters is gone. Been there 29 years and only 3 have come in. Too rough for young fellers.

Q - Is this generation softer?

A - It's easier to work for wages - when prospecting never know if you'll see color.

Side 2 - Frank Thieson interview (1-8-55) - You'd start mining in Spring as soon as water ran.

Before came to Alaska was in confectionary business. Went out for WWI and returned to confectionary business for a while. Returned to Alaska in '22.

"Seems like when you get in hills you like it and don't want to try anything else."

Juneau was bustling - mines on Douglas Isle. Hard rock mines. Montana copper miners and some from Europe.

Colorful experience? Al West was a partner of mine - Joe Croisson. We took 1st float ship on Koyokon (?) River or Koyokok. Before planes had horse scowls from Bettles to Wiseman.

Sam ___? had steamer "Teddy Bates".

Figured on goin' outside for winter - last winter 1st time out in 30 years.

Had surgery at Virginia Masson.

Met ex-wife outside and got married again.

Quite a few women helped their husbands mine.

Story of Frank Smith's wife Betty.

Not many women out there in recent years.

Boats brought stuff for whole year. Dog mail came from Tanana.

Lot of people think airplanes have hurt country but I think it's more convenient. Fresh stuff out at camp.

Tape 2 - Side 2-Cut 1

Side 2 - Maurice Goding interview (1-8-55) - Now lives outside. Recording on Friday - his 73rd birthday. Evelyn Franich and Marge Smith (working for Senator Bartlett in Wash.) are his daughters.

Came to Alaska February 22, 1922. Went out in '42 and returned.

41 years in Alaska. 1 turn at mining but spent most time with White Pass Railroad. Built to take care of Klondike Gold Rush, not permanent, but something has come to give it boost. Still narrow gauge but getting 1st diesel engines "this" year.

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Side 2 - Maurice Goding interview (1-8-55), continued - Had fun prospecting - perhaps didn't take it too seriously.

Was senior engineer when left Railroad. Army took Railroad over in days of building highway.

1st 20 miles of Railroad climbs nearly 3000 feet.

1 sad experience - a rock slide took a locomotive right off train.

Prospector's food - "Given some salt a man could get by off the country."

Why drink tea instead of coffee? Because 1 pound of tea is much lighter and less bulky.

Sourdough starter - recipe (lives in Turlock, Calif. - San Joaquin Valley)

2 C flour

1 t salt

1/2 t dry yeast

2 C warm water

3 T sugar

Stir into paste and

keep warm. 2-3 days

it's ready.

Night before add 2 C flour and 1 T sugar and 1/2 t salt and 2 C water - leave a cup of starter in bowl. To remainder add 2 T sugar, 1 t salt, 3 T fat and an egg if you had one. 1 t soda in water.

Side 2 - Maurice Goding interview (1-8-55) - "I've seen restaurants advertise sourdough as old as Gold Rush."

Skagway was just a little Railroad town. Railroad was so busy with freight that at first it didn't want to bother with tourists.

Put up a marker on Soapy Smith's grave and tourists took it away piecemeal.

Began to have a few Ford cars (?)

Martin Mitchem (?) built only streetcar in Alaska - (at Skagway?). Entertained tourists - showed them about gold prospecting. He was an undertaker - said he had doctors keep patients alive til winter when there were no tourists.

Hope to visit old friends in Skagway on way outside.

Recite some of Robert Service - Dangerous Dan McGrew

"A bunch of the boys were whooping it up....."

Hee mentions Dan Layman and his wife Lou who recites Robert Service locally.

Best birthday he ever had.

Tape 2, -Side 2-Cut 2

Side 2 - Pedro Dedication (recorded in 1954) - She mentions show airs on Sunday night. Rebroadcast of program this week at Pedro Monument. 52nd anniversary of discovery of gold.

Gus Conrad - came to Alaska in 1902. 1st man to come to Fairbanks for gold rush. (Conrad speaking at dedication) Talks about Pedro and Barnette.

By Fall of 1902 Valdez, Eagle, Ft. Gibbon, and St. Michael linked by U.S. Signal Corps. Lt. Wm. Mitchell and Lt. Geo. Gibbs were in charge.

Here's a Pioneer tapes - Tape 2, Side 2-Cut 2

Side 2 - Pedro Dedication (recorded in 1954), continued - Lt. Gibbs sent telegram to St. Michaels about Pedro's find - being picked up on wire caused rush to Chena.

Conrad and ? were 1st stampeder's Christmas night 1902 (present corner 1st and Cushman). Met ~~Pedro~~ and Ed (?) Quinn. Pedro told him of open ground on Gold Stream Creek.

Speaks of progress - U of A, Ladd Field, etc.

Pedro informed friends at Circle (named several) who came over including Mike Stepovich.

Lists creeks and miners on them.

Side 2 - Pedro Dedication (recorded in 1954) - Robert J. McKinna was then pres. of Pioneers.

Frank Chapados was Pioneer's historian - reads section from Pioneers which defines a Pioneer - (places wreath).

McKinna (?) introduces the Governor and Bob Bartlett and says they agreed to come.

Program host comments on airplanes coming overhead (speed changes). She closed program.

(Silence on ET)

Male voice (could be governor?) - continues tribute to Pioneers. Compliments Fairbanks Igloo #4 for Pedro dedication and co-sponsorship of Discovery Day celebration.

"This year in 1954 we tend to think Pioneering is a thing of the past, but..."

Few days ago I dedicated Ketchikan Pulp Mill dedication."

Talks about fostering pioneer spirit in young people. (speed changes) - applause. No identification of him.