

Sylvester Kozloski
Interior Alaska

Interview with Neville Jacobs
Fairbanks Pioneer Home
September, 1974
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Mr. Kozloski displays a failing of faculties combined with the influence of liquor in this tape, but in spite of apparent incoherencies, he tells one story in particular that is unusual: how he shot the bear that ate Bill Strandberg.

Bill Strandberg, the brother of Harold Strandburg, University of Alaska regent and Alaska legislator, was well known among a family of miners. His death was a tragic incident, reported in the newspapers, and this is probably one aspect of the story untold elsewhere.

Kozloski opens by answering questions about his first coming to Alaska as a prizefighter. It is apparent from the beginning that he is not entirely coherent as he rambles and repeats, but he is obsessed with bears and keeps coming back to the subject, finally painting a fairly clear picture of this unusual tragic death. The event took place at the Strandberg mine near Manley Hot Springs, where Kozloski was also mining at that time, in 1963.