Series: Tanana Yukon Historical Society tapes

Reel 2 opens with talk about German aliens in Eagle during the first world war. George says that at one time there were four Martin Otts in Fagle but none was related to any other one. Talks about the Steele Hotel in Fairbanks. Built earlier but added on to in 1938 by Bob Steele formerly of Eagle. George says Danny Agbaba saw lumber come in for the addition. Steele had

(more);

acquired the lumber in Fagle and freighted it by river to Fairbanks. George talks about some of the characters in Eagle. Nimrod was probably the best known. Nimrod used to say of himself that he could make anything but a living. Gus Douglas, Charlie Benderman, Doff Schenberger found Nimrod frozen and brought him back to Eagle for funeral and burial. Nimrod made teeth from bear's teeth. Then he ate the bear with the bear's teeth (now on display in Seattle dental building...the teeth, that is). Nimrod's name was E.A. Robertson. He was written up in Time Magazine when he died. Ernie Pile also wrote him up. Pile also wrote up Beiderman once who had his feet frozen in a mail run (fell into overflow and froze feet).

Talks about Horace Beiderman and his heritage. Junior Beiderman in Eagle Indian village now is grandson of the original Horace.

Back to Nimrod...thawed his body out in the main room of the roadhouse and the Order of Redman had the funeral.

George Beck tells of George Williams of Dawson dying, and finding his body in a fishwheel in Eagle. George helped extract him from the wheel and authorities confirmed the identity (though body was in bad shape). Williams' body took 30 days to get to Eagle from Dawson (about 100 miles). Williams started the electric plant in Dawson when Mrs. Coyle (Lutro family) lived in Dawson, she observes.

Beck talks about the cemetery and poor condition of grave markers. He regrets...in a way...the airplane. Trails were finished when the airplane came. Recalls Jim Magoffin in DEW line days. Talks about the Hercules crash this spring on T-3 ice island.

Back to Redman Lodge. It was a fraternal organization. Arctic Brotherhood also in Fagle in the early days. Also there was a Yukon Order of Pioneers there. No Pioneers of Alaska, however.

George talks about Buster Thompson and his father Clyde Thompson. Talks about John Powers and his pack horses and mail contract. Bob Steele, he says, came to north with the Stampede of 1899, but Steele came up the Copper River route, across country and down the 40 Mile River to the Yukon and up to Dawson. Everything staked when he got there so he got a job dishwashing.