

Reel 3 opens with Ben telling about Fairbanks...only Barnett's cache which was small log structure "not much bigger than this cabin" (and his cabin was pretty small!). The only other thing going in Fairbanks then was a log roadhouse. Being a carpenter, Ben was hired for \$15 per day to help add on to the roadhouse. Operator of the roadhouse was a man by the name of Morrison. Ben said he knew Barnett..."even repaired his boat for him."

Indians came into the settlement to trade. They lived up and down the rivers, Ben said. He managed to keep busy..."had all the work I could do and got \$15 a day for it."

He bought a horse...a pony that someone from Dawson had brought over. Ben said he's seen the pony in a horse race or show in Kamloops, British Columbia before. He knows horses and he remembered that horse. He fed it through the winter by cutting grass under the snow and shaking out the snow. Other horses starved to death, but Ben managed to find a ~~sythe~~ (sp?) somehow and cut grass.  
scythe

He remembers knowing Shorty Wallace, the stage driver. In Fairbanks that winter (1903-1904) everybody lived in tents. Remembers Falcolm Johnson well. Johnson built the narrow gauge railroad from Chena to the Creeks. *30811*

(more)

Ben prospected on Vault Creek, Dome Creek. Worked at Dome City as carpenter but was there before the city became a community. At one time he had No. 7 on Dome Creek. Did not know Verneti. Knew Pedro. Back to his horse. It was the first horse in Fairbanks, Ben said. In Chena Ben used his horse to snake logs into the town for cabin building. Carl Parker said he'd heard a story that Ben fed his horse dried rabbits one winter to keep it alive. Not so, Ben says. Somebody was just having fun telling a story. Back to the horse and cutting grass to keep it alive.

Parker says Livengood area discovered in 1915. Ben had been in the district before the discovery. Before 1914 he had prospected the Beaver Creek area and much of the upper drainages. Talks about the different drainages. He owned and held ground on Ruby and Wilbur Creeks in Livengood. He was a good nozzle man (hydraulic). Tells of how he built a reservoir of water so he could wash away overburden with nozzle. Goes into detail about his dam construction.