

Call number: 97-176-04

Name and place: Harrie Hughes report of a trip to Dawson City Discovery Day with Theo McKenna, Andrew Wicken, Caren Stampie, Kay Kennedy, and Mr. Stevens [A.J. Goddard mentioned in the tape case.]

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Harrie Hughes introduces the recording and explains their car arrangements, mentioning also that when they left Dawson 10 minutes to 5am, and 21 miles out of Dawson City, they saw a large grizzly bear.

[While in Dawson,] they interviewed and visited many people. The Dawsonites were wonderful. One old-timer they met was known as Jerusalem Joe whose full last name was Knatous. He was born in Syria [sound volume fades in and out] and he left Syria when he was a child, in 1884. He arrived in San Francisco in February, 1885 and to Dawson in 1885. After Dawson, he went to Anchorage where he arrived that same year. [This is all Harrie's account of Jerusalem Joe.]

3:15 Some of his life he mined in the Copper River, in the vicinity of what is now the old Guggenheim mining district. Then he hiked from Juneau to Chitina in 1895. Most of the time, Old Joe traveled alone, and he walked from Juneau to Dawson City in 1896.

Joe mined where the power plant is in Dawson in present time, August, 1960. He relinquished his property to the city and started mining at Bonanza [Creek]. Joe remembers building of cabins with no nails by tying logs together with ropes. Another of Joe's memories was when he visited his old home country after the World War 2, and tried to locate his family. In WW I, Turks destroyed his country, Syria, and killed over a 100 of his relations. His wife was caught there during the war and was unable to return. She was an American girl who was born in Ohio. His family was visiting in Syria when the war broke out. They were able to return

to America. Joe found three of his relatives who were left after the mutilations of the enemy.

5:14 Joe has a brother in Brazil but Joe has lost contact with his family. He has been a cook and an assistant cook for the Yukon Consolidated [Gold Corporation] in Dawson. One of the most interesting things about Joe was that he carried a compass when he traveled around the world and around Dawson and Alaska. He also traveled from Summit Lake to Lake Labarge and followed the Yukon, walking on ice. He wore a fur coat that weighed 35 pounds and he used a 5 gallon can with a candle in it for light.

Another one of his memories was the development of core drill for gold, and the boiler and pump that were used in cold water thawing. They are now used in parts of Canada and the rest of the world. There was a wooden dredge no. 12 in the million dollar ground at Unit 4 in Dawson. The dredge was brought in from Alaska and it had a metal bottom and wooden top.

One of the memorable things about Joe is that he lives in a cabin that is located where the original cabins were built when Dawson was first discovered. There are three cabins above his house, still intact today. There are many other buildings that date back to 1894-1901 that are located in Dawson area. The person who interviewed Joe was Theo McKenna, Katheryn Kaiser who is known as Katie McLennan, and Andrew Wicken and Harrie Hughes from Fairbanks [were also present?].

7:40 Harrie says that he'd like to tell some of the things he has seen in Dawson in August 1960. One of the things he heard some 40 years ago from people who stampeded in Dawson in the early days, was that the country wasn't as they thought it would be. Dawson is located in a valley by the Yukon River and there are little canyons to each direction where the ground was mined. Harrie went on top of the mountain and took a panorama with his moving picture camera. The whole country was different than Harrie remembered it from his visit 40 years ago.

One of the things he remembered from the previous visit was old captain A.J. [Unclear, Goddard?] who came over the Chilkoot Pass when they had the avalanche [probably the Palm Sunday Avalanche on April 3rd, 1898] and many people were buried. There were thousands of people at the trail at that time.

Captain Goddard has a collection of 4,000 glass lantern slides that were taken with two 2-dollar box cameras that him and his wife had in the early days. One of the feats in Captain Goddard's stories was that he brought the first saw-mill to Lake Laberge Country and set it to whipsaw lumber. Lumber was \$1 dollar per foot and it would be anywhere from \$200 to \$300 dollars to get enough lumber to build a boat to cross the lake into Dawson territory. He also built the first steamship that operated on Lake Laberge.

9:51 Captain Goddard showed Harrie the original sailing schedules and banners that he had posted and preserved through the years. He told about the Telegraph Creek country and the Cassiar country, and about his trip down the Yukon where they had a terribly hard time in winter. Then he told Harrie about his trip to Fairbanks area that was then known as Barnette's Cache. He was with the original body that came to Fairbanks where Captain Barnette had established his trading post. Captain Goddard went down the river to establish other points down the Yukon and Koyukuk country before he returned to Dawson. His collection of pictures of the gold rush will be donated to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C. upon his death.

He has been paid to given lectures about the early Gold Rush in colleges and universities. Harrie met a man in Dawson who knew him. The man's name was Dan Noonan who works on the riverboats. They have a tape recording with him. Noonan knew Captain Barnette and Captain Goddard personally, and verified some things that Harrie had heard many years before.

11:53 During Golden Days on July 22nd, 1960, Harrie met the Dawson party of some 40 people who visited Fairbanks for the Golden Days. One of the people was Mr. Butterway, a merchant who had been in Dawson for 25 years. He stayed with Harrie in Fairbanks, while others were housed in different homes and hotels in town. They [the Pioneers of Alaska] tried to show the Dawson people a good time during their visit and when Harrie went to Dawson, he and Andrew Wicken stopped by Mr. and Mrs. Butterway.

They learned that there's no newspaper that is printed in Dawson today, but there's a little local paper that is printed twice a month. Every 8th week, some 10-12

women get together and print up a little mimeograph paper that is known as the Klondike Corner.

Harrie is reading following from the August 11th, 1960 edition. There are many local notes and happenings listed. One of them mentions their trip to Fairbanks, and says that Kate McClennan, Mike Wingell [sp?], and Teddy Watch [sp?] were the guests of the Fairbanks organization. Pioneers of Alaska went to meet them at the airport in full 1898 costumes and provided entertainment for the visitors.

14:12 A letter from the Ladies' Auxiliary of Fairbanks told that they enjoyed having the Dawson group. The letter also commented on the sportsmanship of Joe Henderson and Lilly Weisberg [sp?] who were in the parade during the rainstorm and stayed on the float, holding an American flag.

Fred Cook and family drove to a celebration a few miles from Fairbanks and realized that the highway patrol were on his trail. When he pulled off on the side of the road, the officers congratulated him and told him that he was the recipient of a good driver award, which entitled him to lodgings, meals and such.

That's the kind of information that the ladies publish at Klondike Corner.

16:07 Harrie says that it's August 29th, 1960. He reports that Mrs. Fred Soy [sp?] turned over about 200 pictures and negatives that Fred had taken of the current members of Pioneers of Alaska, Igloo no. 4. They are to be preserved as historic record of the members during years of 1959 and 1960. Fred is incapacitated and in hospital, and Mrs. Soy is going to the hospital to be with him. Any profit from the photos goes towards Fred Soy who spent his effort in getting the pictures together.

[End of the recording.]