

Tape 3 Side 1 cut 1

Pg 1/2

Harry Badger - "Strawberry King"
Raised strawberries & brought 15-20
Crate a day to town for 25 years -
Cups between outside & local
strawberries

Came in 1900 because others had
come out w/ gold - Worked in
Washington logging country -
First went to Dawson for 3 yrs -

Barnett got stuck in "Fairbank"
& unloaded his boat - Sent
a "jap" named Waddle to
Dawson to tell of Barnett's 9 ft
of pay dirt - Turned out to be
not so rich & they put the jap
on trial - Badger was chairman
of that court & the man was let
go for -

Barnett wouldn't sell flour
unless you took 3 cases of
canned goods that weren't
any good. Miners passed a
resolution ordering Cap Barnett
to sell flour 1 sack at a
time.

Talk about a man who didn't
want to tell them what he had -

3-1-1

2/2

Opened up Real estate Office -

Town recorder was elected + he charged \$ 2.50 to record a lot. Many people left because of not hitting pay dirt and they sold lots w/ claims for any price.

Had to build in 30 days after taking. Could have 30 day leave of absence to go to Cricle to buy food - used dog sleds. Oly - a Swede - who was friend of Wischenshanis put 700 lbs on sled + pulled it himself. Couldn't make it up the hill so put 300 lbs on his back + that held him down so he could get up the hill.

Budget means life in town + loss of good old days when cabins were left unmolested.

Pulled a sled by the neck from Skagway to Dawson ^(40 days) got a ~~lot~~ at Bennett - landed Dawson March 5, 1900.

Describes path - 33-days from Dawson to Fai.
85 next birthday when interviewed.

3-1-2

1/2

Ben Falls - from Leningrad
Came to Alaska in 1902 - landed in
Whitworth from Vancouver -
helped to build steamers - He
did the joining work.

Spring 1902 built a boat that
sailed to Koyukuk -

Heard of strike at Coldfoot but it
was expensive country so went
with another man intending
to go back to Dawson -

But ended up going across
country & landed at the
Yukon - Ft Stevens (Hemlon).

Gordon Bettes was on this trip - he
used to be an editor in Detroit.

Gandellfa (?) was also on the trip

Went to Rampart - did some hay
cutting for Sam Heater, stayed
'til Feb & then started up the
Tanana River with load of
freight Heater had.

Came into Chena - wasn't anything
in Fairbanks then - didn't
know which was going to be
river headquarters. Judge
decided to start court house

3-1-2

2/2

in Fairbanks. Winter 1903,
In Spring people started to
leave off the hundreds - no
feed for the horses - many died
but Falls managed to save his.
Went across country to what
became Livegood - well in the
Blaine country.

Partner was John Patterson who
was then an old man - died
in a log jam - had been in
that part of country before - had heard
from an Indian John Menute (?)
about Livegood. Summer 1903.
Didn't know whether there was any
pay in Fairbanks.

Had to come in to make grub stake &
So came to Fai & worked as a
carpenter.

At time of recording he was showing
tourists about gold panning. Won
contest against FE's good panner -

3-2-1

1/2

Side 2 cut 1 (noisy)

Alexander Malcolm Smith

Sandy Smith - 93 yrs old - Back
in the territory for the summer -

Wild Creek - new stampede in Kayahok
country - Elected Commissioner of
the miners - recorded claims -

Keep writing to Washington to ask for
post office - finally named it (3)
Al Malcolm - miners teased
him for naming it after himself.

Built a boat & told they would
never make it - started up
John River & got to be rapids -
rained & while he & Bill were
in tent they discussed going
back. Finally got stuff up to
the Summit - Went hunting in
Anaktuvuk (?) valley - (goes
clear to Canada.)

~~Water~~ Water washed over boat &
lost most of their supplies -
Got to mouth of Colville River -

Started to Barrow - & sunk into
ground because of oil -
~~Barrow~~ Eskimos going from
Hershel Island to Barrow saw
oil tracks in snow & reported some
crazy men wandering around
in snow.

3-2-1

2/2

Charlie Brower fed them 3 weeks
& they started across Cape
Liobourne - got to ? river
& discovered a coal field -
largest in the world.

Got caught in storm - had to
take turns in sleeping bag -
3rd morning heard dogs - found
into an igloo 10x12' with 12
dogs & 14 people - had been in
there 7 days & 7 nights -

Sandy & Bill were headed for Point
Hope at Eskimas said they'd
never make it -
Started out - canyon walls were
400-500 ft high.

Records ends abruptly

3-2-2

1/2

Mrs. Geo. GASSER (scratchy)

Came to AK - her bro. represented 54T Co + the Co. brought her up to visit him at St. Michael's for 10 days + then back to Seattle. Next year they gave her the trip again.

Eventually ~~he~~ he was mining + she came to spend the winter - 2 years later Gasser came to Rampart Experiment Station. Gasser was a plant breeder + he worked with grains - working for earliness + heartiness. This was before the Matanuska Experiment.

Also a station at Sitka - it worked mostly w/ fruit trees + berries.

Fred Raider started Rampart Station + then went back to California. Dr. Johnson had selected Rampart as site -

Grew many garden things - things that wouldn't winter kill.

Most success w/ wheat, oats, barley, Kentucky blue grass -

Tenana Valley Experiment farm started later than Rampart.

3-2-2

2/2

S-Y-T Seattle - Yukon. Transportation Company organized as soon as gold boat came to Seattle -

Judge Wood - mayor went to Frisco & hired the Humbolt to come up & take people to St. Michael's.

"The Seattle" was built at Dutch Harbor. There were some boats on the Yukon - perhaps the Hannah & the Sarah.

While living at Rampart, came to Fairbanks to have teeth worked on.

A year after married Mrs. Hassen went back out to Seattle to see her sisters children.

He didn't take his yearly vacation so one time he got 5 months + another time 6 months leave w/ full pay. Served in Rampart 17 years. Took up wild plants because of questions.

Berkeley & Harvard men came up to get butterflies & moths. Read in evening. Organized Saturday aft. shooting class for Indian boys. Girls come to wash dishes. Have Christmas parties - Kids like alphabet blocks best.