

Call number: 02-00-61A Pt. 2

Albert Trana Pioneer Stories, August 5, 1962 and July 5, 1962

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Notes: Original on 5 inch reel. Master copy CD.

Trana is discussing never having a cold winter up here. In 1948 there were 88 across the Bering Sea. He says he took the boat and went to Cordova Island. The tide is discussed. Trana says there quite a few trappers. He says in the cordova area there are big moose. Trana discusses putting cranberries in boxes and having enough for an entire winter. Trana tells a story about Ed being cornered by bears and how he had to shoot and kill a bear. Harry Hughes says he saw thirteen bear when he was in the Cordova area. Trana says one time he saw eight bear eating blueberries in the same spot. Harry Hughes says they are going to take a little intermission at 8:31 of the recording.

The recording continues and Harry Hughes says that the day is August 5th, 1962. Albert told stories about early days in Alaska. Harry Hughes says he wants to ask Trana about Paul Bunyon's trip to Alaska. Trana says a lot of people didn't know the story about Paul Bunyon being up in Alaska. Trana was cutting lumber in the Yukon country among Natives and there was a big tribal celebration and it was getting flooded out. Trana was wondering what to do and some of the white men said that they should get Paul Bunyon in the area. They brought up Paul Bunyon to fix up the Yukon River. Trana says the chief of the tribes told Bunyon he wanted him to make a big ditch to get rid of the flooding waters. Paul Bunyon has his big blue ox with him. The space between the ox's eyes measured 42 ax handles. Bunyon dug the ditch and Mt. McKinley got built with the dug up land.

Trana is talking about the Russians owning Alaska. Hughes asks Trana when he was in Dawson. Trana says he never was in Dawson. Trana says he knows people from Dawson. He says there is a man in Dawson named Trana but it wasn't Albert Trana. Trana says people are always asking if he was in Dawson because of the other Tranas. A man named Corville is discussed. Corville came to Fairbanks in the spring of 1927 when they started building in Fairbanks. Corville came to Trana's house. Trana and Corville were neighbors until Corville moved to Dawson.

The recording stops and starts and at 15:30 Harry Hughes says that Albert Trana is going to discuss his accident on the railroad. Trana says he started working on the railroad in Fairbanks in 1914 or 1915 at the Alaska Railroad. He says the first time he rode on the railroad it was built for 71 miles. That was from Seward to Razor Creek. The road was 20 cents a mile and costs 14.70 for the 71 mile fare. They had the trip once a week to hold the franchise. The company went down to Australia during the winter time. Trana doesn't remember the conductor's name. Trana discusses Clay Lake about 26 miles from Seward. He discusses Red Road near Anchorage. He also discusses Browns Lake camp which is now Wasilla. Trana is talking about the route he took on the train and says he stayed in Wasilla in the winter

while working for the railroad. He says he came down to Fairbanks and his elbow started to fester. He is talking about going to the hospital in Anchorage and Nome. He says at the time he had about \$400. He says that a ship from the Panama Canal was being used for the railroad. He says it carried 15,000 tons and Trana got free transportation on the boat.

The recording cuts off at resumes at 22:30. Trana talks about a big clinic. He says the waiting list was a month. He says he went to Minneapolis. His uncle lived in Minneapolis but he never went to go see him. [The recording is the beginning part of 02-00-61A Pt. 1]. He is discussing a cop having a conversation with a Dr. U.G. Williams. Trana says he went to the [inaudible] Nurses Home. He talks about the operating room and how there were windows with people watching doctors operate. He says he was on the table for two and a half hours. The recording stops.