

Jack Linck, July 9, 1973

Jack Linck is the 1973 King Regent for the Pioneers of Alaska. He was elected by Igloo No. 4, Pioneers of Alaska at the June meeting of the lodge (his Queen Regent is Mrs. Lena Phipps)

Jack and his wife ~~xxxx~~ (second wife) Alaska Stewart Moody Linck, live at 666 Tenth Ave., Fairbanks. He came to Fairbanks in 1928 from Colorado. He, like so many of the real Alaskans, regrets that the Igloo did not choose someone else, saying "I have been here only 45 years" and there are many others more deserving....mostly because the others have endured the ~~xxxx~~ real x hardships of the early pioneer in Alaska. Jack said, "I feel like an interloper in a way".

On Reel one he talks informally about condmonium across the street from his and Alaska's beautifuy log home....also talks about Pioneer Home in Fairbanks (which was occupied in 1967). He mentions his son-in-law Clarence Carlson who is married to Shirley Linck. Cliff Carlson was at the Linck home earlier this day....Cliff's and Clarences' mother Mrs. Alita Carlson has just passed away.

Jack Linck was born Dec. 17, 1892 in Okawville, Ill. His parents were William Henry and Mary Ellen Hackett Linck. Jack was the 10th child of the Lincks. His father died shortly after Jack's birth. When he was five or 6 years old he and his mother went to northwest Missouri to live with a sister (he had 6 brothers and 3 sisters). He went to a one room country school. Wanted to go to college so had to take entrance examanation since he had no high school training. Passed the exam and went two years to Christian Brothers College, a Catholic business college. Worked his way through by peddling the St. Jo, Mo. Daily News. Also worked in a resturant and became a passable waiter. After two years of college got a job with the Wells Fargo Co. in St. Jo., Mo. St. Jo was a city of about 100,000 people at that time. His bos at Wells Fargo was John A. Nichols who at one time had been a pony express ~~xxxx~~ rider for Wells Fargo. Many of Mr. Nichols' old buddies (express riders, too) would stop by to see him periodically.

Jack worked as a clerk for Wells Fargo, wrote letters, did the office work, collected currency from branch offices around St. Joseph about three times a month.....taking horse named Brownie and a rubber tired wagon on his rounds of collecting (Wells Fargo had a money order business as well as express).

Jack had an opportunity to go to Los Angeles where one of his former bosses had tranferred; so he went. That was about 4 years after going to work for the company in Missouir. He didn't like Los Angeles too well since it was such a big city. Then the chief clerk was not to his liking (his name was Sam Woodruff and Jack described him as "peptic and ornery as the dickens") so one day on his lunch hour Jack went to the Southern Pacific Railroad and applied for a clerk's job and went to work at 1 p.m. "That was the only job I ever really walked off" he recalls.

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He still didn't like Los Angeles and when Southern Pacific wanted him to transfer to outposts on relief status, he looked for another job and found one with U.S. Smelting. That was in 1913. In March of 1913 he went to Arizona near Kingman....to U.S. Smelting's mine at Goldroad, three miles from Oatman. At the Goldroad Mine he was the time keeper, general clerk etc. After three or four years he was put in charge of the company office...which was the head office for U.S. Smelting's operations at that time.

Goldroad Mine was about 28 miles from Kingman, Arizona.

Jack said his arrival was just the year after Arizona had acquired statehood, and he was impressed with the orderly way the state was operating.

END reel ONE