

Temperatures on trapline. It reached -74 below in Fort Yukon one day in the winter, and Joe said he supposed it was equally cold in his location up the river.

His first dog team had three dogs, Tommy, the leader; Teddy; and Tim. Bought them for \$100. Tommy was the best leader he ever had, Joe says. He often saw moose on the trail. Never saw too many wolves. Didn't beaver trap much. It was not bear country, either.

One time he got a bear and sold the skin for \$25. Got that bear in a den. Describes how he poked sticks in and woke the bear up and shot him. Caribou once in awhile would come down, but they stuck to the higher country and migrated seasonally. Joe had an ice cellar. The last cache he made he had three moose in it. Set snares at the bottom of the cache poles. Three snares disappeared and the fourth had a partially consumed wolverine in it.

Future of trapping? Nobody trapping now, he said. Fur is there. Ratting is good. One year he got 3,000 rats. He shot 600 rats on one lake alone. The muskrat cycle was about four years. It was so good in some spots that Joe and Ellen built cabins instead of living in tents.

His principal furs were rats, mink and marten. One year he got 100 marten.

6?
Ellen and Joe adopted Jimmy whom Joe thinks is now on the skids...booze. He and Ellen never had any children. The problem now days is drink in Fort Yukon. Families have started living in the villages instead of going out on lines. Congregate in the villages for education. Big families now, too. Consumption used to kill off people in earlier days so families were smaller.