

FRANK NASH - Seattle

July, 1973

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Frank Nash lives at 4407 Gilman Ave. West, Seattle, Wash. 98199. He retired as highway engineer (territorial) in 1950. He came to Alaska in 1914. He was born in Indiana Dec. 22, 1893.

Reel one opens with talk of the Pioneer Mugup held in Fairbanks just day or so before. Nash mentions people he saw this trip, including Clifford Smith, son of Murray Smith, the owner of the old Fairbanks Ice House...former ice house.

Nash came to Seward, Alaska in 1914. He worked for the railroad from 1916 to 1920 when he went to work for highways. Then he switched back and forth between railroad and highway work for several years. He was in Nenana when President Harding was there to drive the golden spike in July, 1923. Frank went to Seattle College for two years. When he went to work for the Territorial Road Commission in 1928 (steady) he was a junior engineer. He later became Highway Engineer for the fourth division.

He tells about old timers in the Seattle and Northwest. Mentions Ed Conrad of Yakima who is 104 years old...but not able to talk anymore.

People he saw Saturday and Sunday....Flora McDonald) Sibold, Jack Linck, Clyde Geraghty, Bobby Mitchell, Dick Callahan, Billy Vic, Sig Wold, Frank Young, the Fagan family (Dan, Pat, Mary, Margaret), Cyril Burnett, Lil Angerman, Clara Rust, Adriana Coyle, Alaska Linck, George Sullivan of Anchorage, Vuka Stepovich. Sullivan is mayor of Anchorage and his father was marshall in Valdez years ago. Also saw Mrs. William Egan, wife of the governor of Alaska.

Nash retired from the Road Commission in November, 1950. He and his wife moved outside. His wife, the former Laura Lane (whom he married in the 1930's) died just last month...June 6, 1973 in Seattle. Nash is making this trip north with Mrs. Mildred Rogers, the neice of Elwood Kunkle who was well known here in the early 1930's. Died in 1942. He left a diary that is 300 type written pages long!

He recalls Jimmy Stewart, an early day miner and the father of Alaska Stewart Moody Linck. Also was a foreman for the Alaska Road Commission in the 1920's.

Nash's wife Laura came to Alaska in 1914 and went to Ruby and Fairbanks. She was born in Kansas.

Nash talks about the International Sourdough Reunion, the Friends of Pioneers and other Pioneer and Alaskan groups in the north-west and west coast areas. Says from here he and Mrs. Rogers will drive to Summit on the new Anchorage Highway and his nephew Johnny Cooley of Anchorage will come in his plane and fly him into Anchorage.

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