Some Pocket Money

Palmer, Alaska—The first con­ tinuation of the Matanuska colony got its first chance to make some pocket money Thursday when the men folks were hired to unload freight cars and erect tents for the Wisconsin-Minnesota area boys who sail from Seattle Saturday night.

But a mong 200 pounds of baggage the Matanuska valley have settled down to being known simply as "camping out," the men doing odd jobs about the place. The are caught up on the scaled looking

Measles Appear

BY JOURNAL CORRESPONDENT

En Route Wisconsin-Michigan Alaskan Special—Contiguous dis­ ease appeared among the colo­ nists Wednesday. Raymond Puhl, 1, Rose Lake, contracted a mild case of measles. He is completely segregated from other passen­ gers. Officials are not alarmed. They expected measles to break out. Now that many children defi­ nitely have been exposed several are believed likely to de­ velop as the settlers sail from Seattle to Boward, Alaska, on the •transport St. Mihel. The Puhl boy, son of Joseph Puhl, will be taken to the Seattle relief depart­ ment’s clinic upon arrival there. His sickness will not prevent his sailing Saturday unless complica­ tions develop.

The colony that was a momentous adven­ ture and fortunately there was an able reporter aboard to record it. He is Joe Hylue, 22, of Palitha, Mich. His report follows. He was at my shoulder to see that it was faithfully transcribed:

"We are climbing the mountains and boys is it ever fun. You should see the beautiful scenes along the railway through the Rockies, when you look down hills where trees are as green as the grass. There were hills of rocks which also makes beautiful scenery. They is very flat on the rocks, but so, they are built right in the ground.

"Do we ever have fun when we go through the tunnels. It gets dark all of a sudden and babies get so afraid they begin crying. There are some short tunnels and some long ones. We went through eight tunnels so far and intend to go through some more. Right now we are 6,000 feet above the sea level. Now we have gone through 11 tunnels. We went through a large town named Butte between the mountains. It was in a large valley which could be seen through two cemeteries, one on each side of the road. In about three hours we pass through the longest tunnel.

Some Were Beheaded

Well, so it went with Joe’s tunnels and mountains. And so it went with the pioneers, too. The show started around noon Wednesday, when a lucky youngster claimed the honor of spitting the first money away. From then until the continental di­ vide lay behind us one fresh scenic surprise followed another. Ranasz Pakkonen, who used a telescope, de­ cided it was more fun than his honey dome. (On his honey dome Pakkonen went to Merrow, Wis., 2, miles from his home at Ironwood, Mich.)

But more fun than the children. The minute they voiced their objections to the windows.

The next they fought each other to reach the opposite side of the train to ex­amine a new discovery.

There’s a higher one.” That be­ came the signal for the scramble. More than one lad nursed a battered shin or bruised head at nightfall.

Adults, too, exclaimed at the wonders. That is, all but a few who had crossed the Rockies before.

They watched with a blank, like travel saturated cosmopolitan, and passed the time of day with stories of adventures in many glorious yards.

Heads Got Light

At 3 o’clock we crossed the continen­ tental divide, 6,222 feet above the sea. For an hour we had studying upward around famed Horsethief curve, where it seemed you could al­ most reach from the first coach and touch the last with your head, and into Pipestone pass. That is the very trail that Lewis and Clark went. Those explorers had Uncle Sam’s indenture, the colonists recite, as have these new day pioneers.

Only little Donnie Ellsworth of Ontonagon county, Michigan, suf­ fered badly from the high altitude. He got a nose bleed. Mrs. Ellsworth rushed him off to cold water and presently they returned with Donnie chaperon a lark for the swift de­ scent. Several passengers de­ veloped ringing heads.

"It felt like my ears are full of water," said Mrs. Arthur Nelson of Shell Lake, and a few of the colonists complained of stomach ache.

A Real Divide

Otherwise the crossing was un­ eventful to the colonists perhaps, but it wasn’t uneventful to them in thought. Ray Grise of St. Paul, Minn., what I mean into words.

"The whole damn middle west is behind us now," he said. "It didn’t give me much and I wouldn’t go back if I could. But, well, I got a brother back there. He was 30 the day I left home." The colonists are going to Alaska for 30 years.

Now for some train notes:

When tiny Nona Fay Bailey from the upper peninsula broke her milk bottle, her mother couldn’t find any­ other, anywhere. Passenger Agent Oliver E. Anderson solved the prob­ lem. Aboard to Miles City, Mont, he wired: "Have infant nutrient bottle available for Alaska special." Into Miles City steamed the special. Out of the station popped the great, waving a shiny bottle. Once again, the way had been made easier for a pioneer of 1933.

Edward Deeds at Winter_bold holds the coaches boasting that he has more children for his age than any man aboard. He’s right. He’s 28, has five children.

Are Yea for Business

Somewhere en route with the freight is a complete blacksmith set, Chris Anderson of Shell Lake, a blacksmith for 15 years, shipped an oxen weighing 200 pounds, a forge, long chisels and other tools.

"They said they didn’t know any blacksmith going up there," he explained, "so I says to myself, ‘Here’s my chance, they’s going to have horses and if they want horses I’ll find some work.’ I ain’t expecting anything for ten, three years but when there is an opening I’ll be ready for it.

Mrs. Harry Campbell, Abrams, is niece of Hetie, the WTMJ radio announcer on page 9, column 1.