

MATANUSKA VALLEY

31° 39' N. Lat.

149° 15' W. Long.

PIONEER

BUY
"MATANUSKA MAID"
PRODUCTS

Vol. I

Palmer, Alaska, --- March 6, 1936

No. 29

LOOK BEFORE YOU SHOOT

Harold Davis of Tract 127 suggests that anyone running around the Valley should be certain of the nature of their target before shooting at anything moving in the woods.

A short time ago Harold was rushing along when a couple of blowers plugged his ears and ripped holes in the air near his head.

MORE WATER FOR COMMUNITY CENTER

Once more the clank of drills makes music in the Community Center where one of Forrest Kelso's crews are plugging for water. Unfortunately the water situation in the Community Center has been a difficult one. Increasing need for fire protection and for a supply for the new school building has made necessary the drilling of more wells.

PALMER DELEGATION LEAVES FOR FAIRBANKS ICE CARNIVAL

On the morning of the fifth, a fanfarronade of taxi horns blared a parting salute as the cavalcade bore Miss Palmer and her escorts toward Matanuska to meet the northbound train. Quite a number of Palmerians went along. Virginia Berg takes with her the best wishes of Palmer.

There are quite a bunch of optimists in the valley; we didn't note any ear-muffs amongst the dunnage, even though they were headed for the ICE CARNIVAL! -- but then perhaps this mild valley climate has spoiled them.

THANKS TO ANTON ANDERSON

Members of the American Legion of Palmer desire to express their gratitude to Anton Anderson for surveying an acre of land which the Legion purchased from T. A. Smith.

Plans are going forward for the building of a home for the Legior Post in Palmer.

From a sufficiently low viewpoint, mole-hills become mountains.

NOTHING SLOW ABOUT THESE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

The fire-alarm you heard on the night of March third was only a practise call. But it proved that the Palmer Volunteer Fire Department is right there when it comes to speed.

Here are the results of the test as reported by Fire Chief Fr. Sulzmann

--- FROM TIME OF DISCOVERY OF FIRE TO BLOWING OF SIREN.. 1 MINUTE

--- HOSE LINES PUT OUT AND ENGINE STARTED IN THREE MINUTES FROM TIME WHEN SIREN STARTED TO FLOW.

--- FIFTEEN SECONDS FOR HOSE LINE TO BE LAID AND ENGINE STARTED.

Our firemen are to be highly commended for their quick and efficient work. Such a speedy response may be badly needed some day.

THERE WILL BE NO MORE FIRE DRILLS... THE NEXT TIME YOU HEAR AN ALARM IT WILL BE A FIRE.
* * * * *

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT TAKEN ILL

Archie Betts, Chief Accountant, was flown to Anchorage Sunday by Pilot Chet McLean, and operated on that evening for a ruptured appendix.

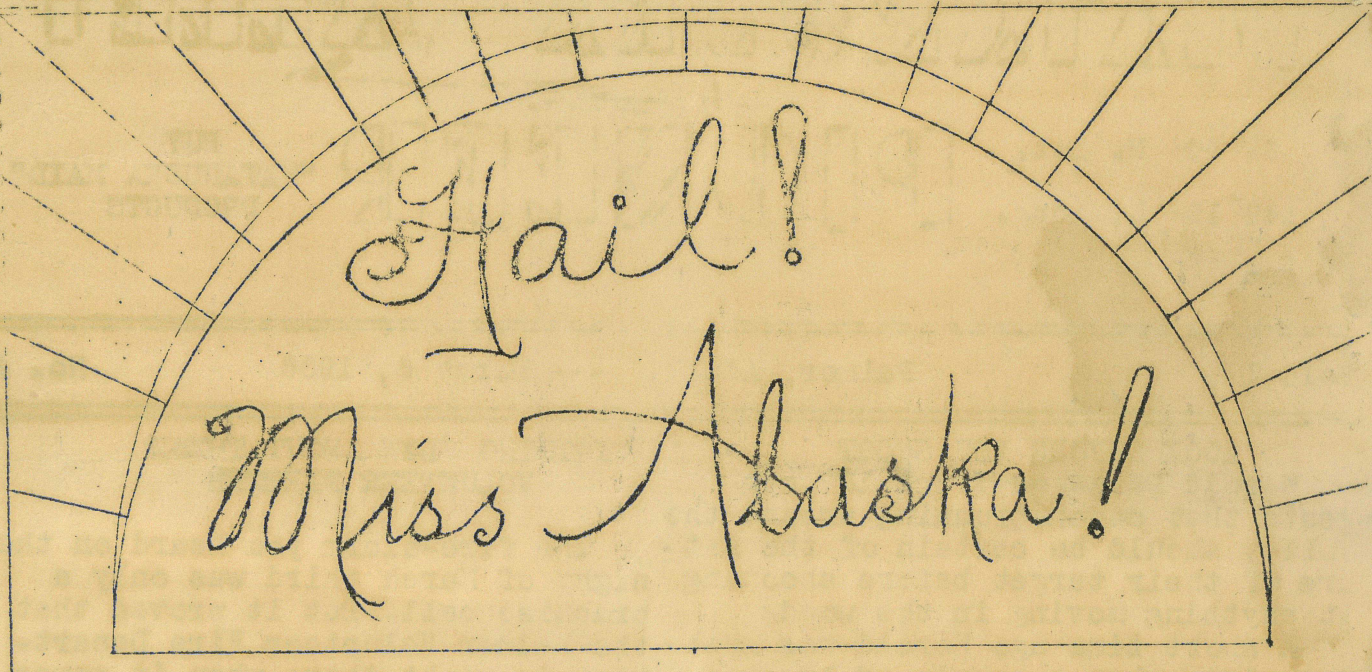
Mr. Betts had complained of a pain in his side for a week, but the condition didn't become serious until Saturday Night.

Dr. Albrecht, who flew to Anchorage with the patient, was prevented from operating here due to lack of water for sterilization purposes
(cont. pg 2, col I)

ALASKA WEEKLY CALLS FOR PHOTOS OF MATANUSKA VALLEY

The Alaska Weekly, printed in Seattle, is about to get out a special Matanuska Edition. They would like to have copies of any representative photos made during the early days of the project.

(cont. pg 2, col. I)



Hail!

Miss Alaska!

March 6th---

THIS MORNING PALMER RECEIVED THE THRILLING INFORMATION THAT MISS VIRGINIA BERG, RECENTLY GIVEN THE TITLE OF 'MISS PALMER' AT A LOCAL CONTEST, LAST NIGHT RECEIVED FROM THE JUDGES OF THE FAIRBANKS ICE CARNIVAL THE TITLE OF 'MISS ALASKA'.

MISS BERG CAN BE PROUD OF HER SOVEREIGNTY OVER THIS ENORMOUS TERRITORY. THE CITIZENS OF THIS VALLEY COLONY ARE VERY PROUD OF THEIR NEW QUEEN.

Last night speculation was rife as to the outcome of the Ice Carnival Contest.

Everyone who could get to a radio listened eagerly for news of the choice of the Fairbanks Judges. But no news was forthcoming from station KFQD. JP, the Golden-voiced announcer said during the period of news-transmission that as the train would be a bit late into Fairbanks he could not at that time advise his listeners regarding the new Miss Alaska.

But this morning all concerned were overjoyed to hear that Miss Berg had been chosen.

A telegram was dispatched to Fairbanks:

"MISS ALASKA

JUST HEARD OF YOUR SUCCESS WE ALL FEEL ELATED AND WISH TO EXTEND OUR SINCEREST COMPLIMENTS TO THE CARNIVAL COMMITTEE AND YOURSELF

WE KNOW THAT YOU GRACE THE FESTIVITIES AS ONLY YOU CAN GRACE THEM AND RETURN TO US THE SAME LOVELY GIRL WE SENT TO REPRESENT US

CITIZENS OF PALMER"

----- 0 -----

A telegram received here this morning by the President of the Palmer Chamber of Commerce, said that Miss Berg won by a vote of four to three. The message was sent in by Jack Allman, traveling editor of this paper.

We all join in expressing our great pleasure in hearing that Miss Berg has been conferred the title of Miss Alaska.

And we can hardly wait for the Palmer delegation to return so that we can get an earfull of news from the Ice Carnival.

For example, we wonder why it is that the Prexy of the Chamber of Commerce has been grinning maliciously whilst sharpening up a great big meat-axe....

It seems that he got a telegram (Which is all right in itself) but after he signed for it a wicked glitter filled his eye.

BOOST PALMER AND THE
MATANUSKA VALLEY

THE MATANUSKA VALLEY PIONEER
Published Thursdays at
Palmer Alaska
Jack Allman, Editor --Publisher

--0--
Subscription rates \$2.50 yearly.
If by mail add 50¢ for postage.
Single copies 5¢ locally, 10¢
elsewhere. Advertising rates fur-
nished on request. Weekly PIONEERS
at Bert's Drug Store, Anchorage...

RESULTS OF ORCHESTRA
CONTEST

After much burning of midnight
oil, Judges Sulzman, Don Irwin and
Jack Allman decided after due del-
iberation that Palmer Pioneers
would be the name of the new Colon-
ial Orchestra.

Genevieve Ring submitted the
winning title and is entitled to
take her boy-friend in free to all
dances where the "Palmer Pioneers"
play.

---CHIEF ACCOUNTANT (cont. from p.

Mr. Sheely recieved a letter from
Mr. Betts recently. Mr. Betts said
that he spent a couple of pretty
tough days, but he's on the road
to recovery now.

Keep you eye open for a year.
At the next affair the committee
bets on Jack Sheely.

--Alaska WEEKLY --(cont. from pg 1)

If you have any such photos,
send them in. The Alaska Weekly
will guarantee safe return of them.
Address - Alaska Weekly, 5th at
Lenora, Seattle, Washington.

FOUND: Fountain pen found in Time-
keeper Young's office. Owner please
identify.

Small necklace with cruci-
fix found at dance by Mrs. H. W.
Edwards. Now at Pioneer office.
Owner may have same if will identi-
fy.

SPRING... COMIN' UP!

First sign of Spring: Mr Irwin
breezed into the PIONEER office
with a pocket-full of seed catalogs
and an enthusiastic gleam in his
eye. He was gazing absorbedly at
an advertisement for a hardy var-
iety of corn. What'll you bet we
have some roastin' cars this fall?

Also found at the dance,
one lady's glove and a one-dollar
watch. Both at Pioneer office.

SPRING SEED SALE

Mr. Irwin announced that there
will be a seed sale at the Commis-
sary next week. It won't be so very
long before the drills will be get-
ting their exercise up and down the
rows,

FOR SALE: EXCELLENT HIGH-PRICED
GUITAR FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE
PRICE. A WORTHWHILE SAVING.
SEE JACK HERMAN

One pair of skates mounted
on size eleven shoes - practically
new. On sale at Pioneer office -
Price--\$6.00

RETURN BASEBALL
EQUIPMENT

All those who have baseball
uniforms or other equipment, bring
them in to the PIONEER office, as
there is now a place made for their
storage in the new gymnasium.

VALLEY CITY CAFE
CAKES PIES PASTRY AND BREAD
FRESH DAILY

CIGARETTES CANDY TOBACCO

HORTON'S VALLEY CITY

OLE'S TAXI

COLONY .CAB SERVICE

A BRAND NEW FORD V-8 SEDAN

CLUB RATES A SPECIALTY WITH US

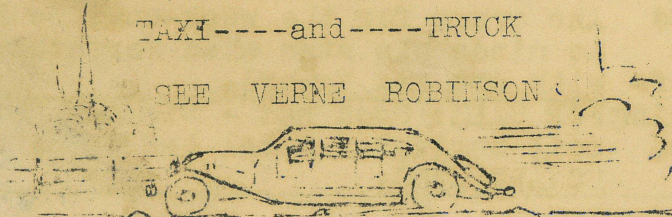
Hans Nordheim Proprietor

USE PALMER MOTOR SERVICE

---AT YOUR SERVICE---

TAXI----and----TRUCK

SEE VERNE ROBINSON



Buy PIONEERS and send to friends

FLASHES FROM THE FUTURE

(Editor's note: These are a welcome contribution and we hope to receive more of them. Our correspondent is unknown to us, as we found the following on our desk after an absence from the office.

Let's hope for more news at regular intervals from the Camp 10 area)

Great activity around here - everybody doing something to help develop the colony.

- - -

Mr Moland's carpenters are hammering away lustily and making real progress. His logging crew is also busy taking down the big ones, and his sawmill producing a good grade of native lumber for corporation use.

He is planning to cut half-a-million feet by spring and the sawmill presents a scene similar to those in the states in the early days.

- - -

We notice George makes his morning rounds in time to pick up the small kids living furthest from school - a kindly act much appreciated by the parents.

- - -

The 'buzz-gang' has been busy this past week and have gone 'round their half of the loop so nobody has to buck wood by man-power.

- - -

The boys claim that by the size of Van's woodpile, he is trying to beat Mr. Moland's half-million mark.

- - -

A Community meeting was held in the schoolhouse and everyone was there except Lloyd Bell who was busily slashing another acre with the aid of a lantern.

It was unanimously carried that we support the recommendation of the corporation to grow feed and more feed on any land that is available; and a committee was formed to carry out the program.

- - -

Mr Jackson from Anchorage seems to be a frequent visitor in our valley, and is making many friends. We hear that one of our members tackled him on Theology, and the debate lasted until three A.M. with the honors going to Mr. Jackson.

- - -

We hear over our Radios that another serious case of "Anticolonitis" has broken out in Anchorage. It is reported that some would-be Republican delegate has contracted the disease, and is in a serious condition - even his mind being affected: his main hallucination being that the Colonists like lollypops.

That one symptom in itself shows how serious his case is, as seventeen or more years ago many of those same Colonists were going over the top chewing gum - they were heroes then.

His close friends claim that his state of mind is due to the fact that he has been practically unemployed during the past four years, but relief agencies state that he has participated in all the benefits of the present Administration.

- - -

Mr. Tarwater, who also contracted this disease some time ago, is reported as convalescing down in Tennessee and is now out of danger.

That is very satisfactory, and his return is being eagerly awaited by his many friends, and also by the Colonists, of whose Corporation he is a director.

- - -

It seems that the old, vexed question of 'Pioneer Peak' versus 'Ben-Mac-Duhe' has arisen again, and that the ancient and honored name has been flouted by our worthy chief engineer; whose ancestors lived, loved and stole cattle under the shadow of the ancient peak.

Well, let it be 'Pioneer Peak' if they wish it! The old gang who christened it back in '35 are nothing if not generous, and they realize that Gaelic does sound like language of a doubtful character; but we suspect that amidst the ring of axes and the crash of falling timbers, sturdy pioneers who came up in '35 will pause to wipe their streaming brows, gaze reverently up at the peak, and murmur: "Good Old Ben!"

- - -

The sun is really working now and the housewives out here are hollering for awnings to protect the new sitting room carpet.

Anybody from the other side of the river who wishes to bathe in our glorious sunshine are welcome to come down sometime - provided that they make no attempt to remain here.

- - -

Interesting experiments are being conducted on the Bergen farm to determine the most efficient method of clearing land. They are being followed with close attention by everybody here.

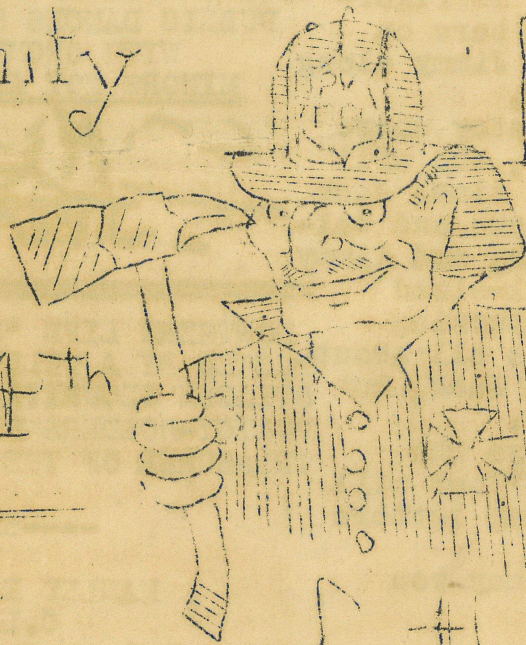
Our school master has gone to Anchorage for the week-end. We hope he minds his step when forgoing with Art and Howard.

FOR SALE: Good bed - Simmons Mattress coil springs - metal bedstead. See HOWARD LYNG.

First Annual Firemans Ball

Community Hall

Palmer



March 14th

Admission
Men
One Dollar

The Dance of the Year
Every Year
Music by Peggy Lumperton's "Palmer Pioneers"

HOSPITAL NEWS

Little Harry Jacobs is now getting along fine. He has been suffering from an attack of bronchitis.

.....

Jim Herdman may be confined to the hospital for some time. X-ray examination shows a crushed vertebra sustained when scaffolding fell on him.

.....

John Pfeiff's bad knee is getting along in fine shape.

.....

A mystery which has been baffling Dr. Albrecht has been solved...

The scratched finger of Gerry Kindgren's two-and-a-half month old baby got that way because she scratched it on a TOOTH.

RAILROAD OPENS NEW STATION

The passenger train made its first official stop at the New Palmer Depot today. Slim Johnson, the agile agent, is working like a beaver to get his new sanctum sanctorum into a state of finishment. That's fine!

We're as glad to see that box-car closed up as Slim is. We hope you enjoy your new home, ole podnuh!

KLING KAB COMPANY REGULAR AND DEPENDABLE

PARCEL AND PASSENGER SERVICE

Our routes will be covered as scheduled if humanly possible.

REGULAR SERVICE TO BUTTE SECTION

Tuesday mornings between 9 & 10
Round-trip fare including 4-hour stopover in Palmer.....\$1.50

TO CAMPS 5-6-7-8-9 on Wednesdays at same hour.....75¢

TO CAMP 4 ON THURSDAY MORNINGS MAKING LOOP PAST CAMP 2...\$1.50

YOUR PARCEL PURCHASES WILL BE MADE AND DELIVERED FOR A NOMINAL FEE. IF YOU DESIRE THIS SERVICE, HANG A FLAG ON TRACT SIGN, AND CAB WILL STOP.

KOSLOSKY'S

"The Friendly Store"

HANDY KITCHENWARE ASSORTMENT

Strainers, Pancake Turners-----
----Spoons and Spatulas
15¢ to 25¢

Also a fine line of Ivory and Gray Enamelware for the Kitchen.

NEW INVASION OF THE KOYUKUK

Jack McCord and Jimmy De Cicco are headed toward the Northern Lights and the treasures of Midas. Jack, a veteran gold-seeker well-known throughout the Territory, is figuring on looking over a few bars on the Koyukuk. He is taking Jimmy along to show him how it's done.

They're going into country where very few white-folks live, and will probably be gone for some time. Jack took along some knick-knacks and calico to give to the indians, and Jimmy is not only hefting a No 1-sized pack, but also a heap of burning curiosity to see what it's all about.

It's all old stuff to Jack, but he never gets tired of it.

We'll bet that the boys who know Jimmy way back in N'Yawk will get some highly interesting letters when he comes down again.

Good luck, you guys; may you strike it rich!

JACK FABYAN GETS FRANK CLARK'S GOAT

Jack Fabyan, local well-digger and inventor, says that he and the Spanish Kid don't want to see any more goats for a while...

Frank Clark, Palmer farmer, wanted one to give milk for his family, so Jack cranked up his Rattle-Tee, and he and the Spanish kid pushed off for Lee Eleckson's place at Knik to get one. They hit blizzards and drifts going and coming, and if Jack hadn't been coddling that shuddering Cucaracha of his for the past ten years, the drifts would have fixed their clock.... As it was, the goat got sea-sick and fixed up Jack's expensive sheepskin upholstery in a big way.

"Madre de Dios!" says Jack, "No more will I go after a blamed goat unless she has found her sea-legs."

FOR THE HISTORICAL RECORD

When Manley Sweazey hung out his shingle in the window of Horton's Hotel recently, he formally opened the Matanuska Valley's first Insurance office

CAN'T SEE THE WOODS FOR THE TREES

Fritz Herman of tract 43 says he got a bang out of the conditions at Jack Lund's place. Jack ordered a load of coal. When the driver came to deliver the coal, he couldn't get close to Jack's house because of the trees.

ST. CLAIRS LAKE RESORT
PRIVATE DANCES AT POPULAR RATES
COVER CHARGE, \$1.....LADIES FREE
LUNCHES SERVED

Can accomodate MIDWEEK private parties of ten or more people - - - - -
PUBLIC DANCES SATURDAY NIGHTS
WITH ORCHESTRA
MINORS NOT ADMITTED



NORTHERN LIFE "3-in-1" POLICIES ARE BACKED BY A MILLION DOLLARS IN NEGOTIABLE SECURITIES DEPOSITED FOR THE POLICY-HOLDERS PROTECTION WITH THE TREASURER OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

-----SEE-----

MANLEY E. SWEAZEY
C.L.U.

AT HIS PALMER OFFICE
ROOM NUMBER TWO-----HORTON'S HOTEL.

AMERICAN RAILWAY EXPRESS
MONEY ORDER AND TRAVELERS CHEQUES
--AT THE NEW PALMER DEPOT--
Slim Johnson, Agent.

ROBERT CANNING KILLED

Robert Canning, employed at the A.R.R.C. sawmill at Camp Ten, was accidentally killed this morning when he attempted to cross the saw-rig to aid foreman Jeff Morley in clocking the speed of the saw. Canning fell into the saw and both his legs were completely severed at the hips. Death was almost instantaneous.

Surviving him is a wife who is at present in Fairbanks. It is not known if he leaves any children. Mr Sheely and Mr Irwin have attempted to contact Mrs Canning.

The remains are being held at Palmer pending instructions as to their disposition.

Canning was thirty eight years of age.

A meeting of a Coroner's Jury in the new Community Hall resulted in the rendering of a verdict of death by accident.

Razzberries via Radio

The radio fiend in the Pioneer office yodels that he wishes somebody'd figure a way of making long wave transmitters out of automobile ignition systems.. When he's copyi short-wave code stations, all the autos in Palmer seem to be slipping him the bird.