



MATANUSKA VALLEY

61° 30' N. Lat.

149° 15' W. Long.

PIONEER

BUY
"MATANUSKA MAID"
PRODUCTS

Vol. I

Palmer, Alaska

May 14, 1936

No. 39

ALL PLANS COMPLETED FOR COLONY DAY CELEBRATION

On Saturday, May 16, the members of the Matanuska Colony will celebrate the conclusion of their first year in the Valley with a program, picnic and day of sports. The Annual School Picnic is being combined with this and the whole Valley is invited to join in the celebration.

Transportation will be furnished and busses and trucks will bring the people into Palmer by 10:30. Colonists and others should be prepared to leave their homes early and should have red flags out to signify that they wish the driver to stop.

One bus will get the people of Camps 5, 6 and 7, while another will pick up those of Camps 4 and 2. Still another will collect all who wish to come from Matanuska and Camps 8 and 9. Trucks will pick up those from the Butte area.

At 11:00 a.m. a program will be given in the Community Hall. Don Irwin will give a brief history of progress in the Colony. Governor Troy will give a brief address and Colonel Ohlson will say a few words. The principal speaker is expected to be Dr. Ernest Gruening. Ross Sheely will give a talk on Future Plans.

Immediately following the program, everyone will picnic. The Corporation will provide boiled ham and coffee for all. Families should bring the balance of their lunch including cream, sandwiches and cake, and should be sure to bring their own cups and utensils.

After the lunch contests will consist of ball game, races, catching greased pig, climbing greased pole, husband calling contest, pie eating contest, horse racing, etc.

At 4:30 transportation will return people to their homes for chores. They will pick those who wish to return for the dance up again between 6:30 and 8. The dance, which is free to all, will be put on by the Corporation Staff and will be from 8 to 12, at which time people will be transported to

their homes.

The Matanuska Valley Post #15 of the American Legion is looking after the most of the details and all members are requested to be at the Community Hall by 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning to assist.

CREAMERY AND CANNERY UNITS TO BE STARTED VERY SHORTLY

With funds available for the erection of these two important units of the co-operative set-up work is expected to start soon on the creamery and cannery.

These buildings, which will be set up over full concrete basements, will attached to, and just east of, the big warehouse.

NOTICE!

Attention has been called to the amount of timber and debris around some of the homes. The Corporation is immediately going to clear around unoccupied houses. After this is done clearing will have to be made around houses where this is necessary, but which are now occupied. This will be charged to the house if the Corporation has to do this.

The necessity of this should be evident to everyone because of the fire hazard. We have been very fortunate in two or three instances that houses have not been destroyed already this spring. The weather is very likely to continue dry most of the time until July.

Let me urge that every colonist have a space at once of at least one hundred feet clear of timber, undergrowth or any other inflammable material. If this is not done some of the houses are going to be lost with the chance of loss of life at the same time.

Please co-operate to save this property and avoid accidents which are certain to follow.

(Signed) ROSS L. SHEELY
General Manager

BUY A PROGRAM SATURDAY

THE MATANUSKA VALLEY PIONEER

Published Thursdays at

Palmer, Alaska

Jack Allman, Editor - Publisher

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Subscription rates \$2.50 yearly. If by mail add 75¢ for postage. Single copies 5¢ locally and 10¢ elsewhere. Back copies from No. 1 to present, in books of 10 consecutive numbers at \$1.00 each, post-paid. Advertising rates on request.

RIDING TO A FALL

It is quite possible that those few who are continuously kicking on the food budget are riding to a fall which will carry the whole colony group with them.

Washington, with plenty of living cost statistics from which to judge, says that the local food budget is too liberal, and there are those here in the colony who argue that it isn't enough.

Inquiry among the families here have convinced us that the difference of opinion is simply a matter of economy and management in the home. There are families here who are laying by a reserve on their budget, and there are others who use up their entire bingle allowance before the month is half over, then come in and demand additional credit at the commissary.

Few as they are, this is the bunch who will bring about legislation that will work a hardship on those who are managing their kitchens properly.

It is foolish to think that an increase will be sanctioned by Washington because of the howls of a few. What will be the result?

That shouldn't be hard to answer in view of what they are doing elsewhere. Instead of being permitted to choose from the commissary shelves the families will receive a box of weekly rations. The day of the \$6.00 boned hams, canned sliced peaches and candy bars by the dozen will be past.

"God forbid," said one colonist with whom we discussed this possibility, "I hope they never have to shove a box at me. I lived that way once."

The greenhouse back of the manager's house, which will be used in class work by Mr. Flakne, is almost completed, except for the installation of the glass.

A note from Frank Ring, Forest Fire Warden, sounds a warning to all who are planning on burning slashings. Frank writes:

"The first forest fires of the year have already occurred, and

W. M. Sherman, District Ranger, warns that a season of high hazard lies ahead. He points out that the favorable growing conditions of last summer produced an abundance of vegetation that will remain dry as tinder until covered with the new growth this year.

"Extreme care will be necessary if forest fires are to be kept at a minimum."

(Editor's note: The following should have appeared with the regular school notes, but we lacked the space.)

Mr. Don Irwin gave a very interesting talk during Assembly period last Friday when he told of his trip to Washington, D.C. He recommended several places of interest to be visited when there.

During his talk he made several references to Presidents Washington and Lincoln, telling about their homes, the old furniture to be seen in them, and of incidents in their lives.

In telling of the mule stalls at Mt. Vernon he made the remark:

"I thought at the time how pitiful it was that there were not any such stalls today in which to put people who make so much noise over the radio."

A post marriage shower for Betty Morley, nee Meier, was given by the Mesdames Ising, Lepak and Reitan at the latter's home on Tract 75.

Many attractive and useful presents were given to the recent bride and after a delightful luncheon a number of tables of Five-Hundred were filled in the tastily decorated living room with its motif of pink and white.

The guests were: Mrs. Runar Matson, Mrs. Walter Huntley, Mrs. Wm. Fyneck, Mrs. Waldo Fox, Mrs. Leonard Harried, Mrs. Harry Campbell, Dena Reitan, Betty Morley, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Meier and Reverend and Mrs. Frieling.

All had a grand time in spite of the difficulties of travel. Betty's mother and dad didn't attend their daughter's shower in a car. No sir.

"I wanted to be sure of getting there," said Carl, "So we hooked old Dobbin up to the spring wagon and then prayed that it wouldn't fall apart."

Paul Harthorn, Steve Alward and James Zook came in on the last boat to look the valley over. Steve and Paul are from Atwood, Michigan.

James, who is from Central Lake, will make his home here with the Zooks on Tract 205.

BUY A PROGRAM SATURDAY AND HELP RAISE SOME PRIZE MONEY.

HOSPITAL NOTES

A nine pound and two ounce baby heir was born to Mrs. Johan Johnson of Tract 15 on Sunday evening. Both mother and boy doing well.

Clint De Land, brother of Edgar, is doing fine after a tonsilectomy, and Teddy De Land is about ready to leave the hospital.

Donny Irwin has had his tonsils removed and the world isn't such a bright place right now. He's sure everything will be all right, though, in a few days.

Dorothy White, Kathryn Kennedy and Roberta Hemmer are all much improved.

GEORGE EMBERG BACK

George Emborg, who gave up his tract and asked for transportation for his family back to ST. Louis County, Minnesota, took the boat to Seattle, sent the children on presumably with his brother and then came back on the same ship.

He was in Anchorage the other day, but we have since heard that he flew in to Cripple Creek where it is said he has a job lined up.

The Earl of Ramsøy is now the Freight Clerk at the Palmer depot, having 'bumped' Roland Pasco to a similar job in Anchorage.

FOR SALE: Two young Hampshire sows, due to farrow early August. See M. D. Snodgrass.

Wanted to buy: Davenport and 2 overstuffed chairs, straight and rocker. See Jeff Morley.

The Firemen have been out evenings trying to get a ball diamond in shape over in the Community Center Park Area. It's a tough job, but we have to have one. We have already received a Fourth of July challenge from the miners at Lucky Shot. Manager Waugh says: "We'll take 'em all on when we get going."

With Mrs. Fairman of Anchorage in charge as hostess, or 'House Mother,' the new dormitory is rapidly filling up with members of the administrative staff and teachers.

BIG HARD TIME BALL AT PALMER ON SATURDAY, MAY 23rd, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COLONIAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

DON'T MISS THIS!!!!

NOTE OF THANKS:

In behalf of my company and of myself I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the people of the Matanuska Valley for their fine spirit of cooperation and friendly good-fellowship.

The many NORTHERN LIFE policies which as a result have been thrown as a protecting bulwark around the families of many of you is my contribution to the normal economic development of your community.

I thank you.

Manley L. Sweazey, Resident Supervisor,

NORTHERN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

O. O. KROGH PONTIAC DEALER

CARS NOW ON DISPLAY MATANUSKA

A REAL CAR - AT A REASONABLE PRICE SEE NEW MODEL BEFORE YOU BUY A CAR

VALLEY CITY CAFE

CAKES....PIES....PASTRY AND BREAD

FRESH DAILY

CIGARETTES CANDY TOBACCO

VALLEY CITY BARBER SHOP

NOW OPEN AND OFFERING YOU THE MOST EXCELLENT

TONSORIAL SERVICE

VALLEY CITY HOTEL BUILDING

OLE'S COLONY CAB SERVICE

NEW FORD V8 SEDAN - SPEED & COMFORT

GET OUR CLUB RATES

YOU'LL NEVER KNOW UNLESS YOU TRY

HANS NORDHEIM PROPRIETOR

PERMANENTS, MARCELLES, SHAMPOOS AND FINGER WAVES.....LEAVE APPOINTMENTS FOR ALL BEAUTY TREATMENTS WITH

TED M. ROBERTS

AT THE COLONY BARBER SHOP NEAR THE COMMISSARY AT THE CENTER. *****

THE PIONEER CAB

SPECIAL RATES FOR FISHING PARTIES ---THEY'RE BITING OUT AT COTTONWOOD! MAKE UP A PARTY, THEN

SEE

GEORGE LEMMON PROPRIETOR

FOR SALE: Zenith 6-tube battery radio with all new tubes and 'B' Battery. \$10.00. See it at the PIONEER OFFICE

School Notes

1st and 2nd Grades

Everyone in the 2nd grade made 100% in spelling one day last week.

Absences are the Pfeiff children, who have just had their tonsils removed, and Elaine Kennedy who made a short visit to Eklutna. Lloyd, Donald and Virginia La Rose are absent due to illness, and Teddy De Land is convalescing after an appendectomy.

Three little pigs, the big bad wolf, and the three billy goats gruff have been visiting the primary room -- in dramatized stories by the young pupils.

3rd and 4th Grades

The following in these grades got 100% in spelling: Jimmy Poppel, Gene Bailey, Betty Ruddell, Phyllis Jensen, Betty Morrison, Ted Pfeiff, Laura France, Marian Frederick, Charles Monaghan, Eleanor Fyneck, Lloyd Thorson, Irving Connors, Audrey Bouwens, and Dick Johnson.

Mrs. Kling has an attractive display of pictures in her room that were painted by her former 6th grade pupils in Minnesota.

A letter and a souvenir menu of the S.S. Yukon has been received from Vella Bingle who is on her way to the States.

7th and 8th Grades

The 7th and 8th have eight very lovely wood-cuts depicting several Alaskan cities and views of totem poles, glaciers and bears. Miss King has also collected some fine sketches of pastoral scenes which she has on exhibition.

High School

In the making of their first study article, a faggoted collar, the domestic science class learns to use the feather stitch, and the manner of sewing bias tape onto a rounded edge. These first articles are nearly completed.

Miss Williams, Red Cross Nurse, gave a lecture on the physiology of the eye to the physics class last week.

School Improvements

The students of the second floor class rooms are all glad to have the new translucent shades up. Each window has two shades, one for the upper, and one for the lower sash.

The big caterpillar "40" has been leveling the grounds during the past few days, improving the appearance, but destroying the improvised teeter-totters.

Mr. Leo Jacobs has informed us

that the new screens are under construction. These will keep the mosquitoes from "using us as filling stations," as Cornelia Otis Skinner so aptly puts it.

Reverend Frieling

Reverend Frieling was Assembly speaker on May 2nd, giving an interesting talk on Alaskan history.

Rev. Frieling lived for some time at Beaver, up near the Arctic Circle, and during the latter part of his talk he told of incidents relating to the occupations and activities of the Eskimos. So many questions were forthcoming at the close of his speech that he was kept busy well over the time allotted the Assembly period.

The pupils were especially interested to learn that Eskimo children have no money smaller than a 25 cent piece, thereby making the price of a candy bar "two-bits!"

School Calendar for

Week of May Eighteenth

1) On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are to be given the final examinations for the year. For some of the classes Monday and Tuesday will be spent in review.

2) Commencement Exercises are to be held Wednesday night at the gymnasium.

3) A meeting of the teachers to assimilate the the data of the school year will be held Thursday.

4) On Friday will be another meeting of the teachers for the purpose of entering the grades on the report cards, which will be mailed to the students.

BACCALAUREATE SERVICES

Baccalaureate Services will be held Sunday morning, May 17, at the Palmer Community Hall.

There will be music by the orchestra and singing by the audience and an anthem by the choir.

The sermon will be delivered by the Reverend Father Sulzman. The invocation, a bible reading and the benediction will be given by the Reverend Ernest Crabb.

We regret that we have not space for THE PESKY VARMINT, a short school sketch by Ruthelyn Elliott. We will run it in the next issue.

KEEP A HISTORY OF THE COLONY DEVELOPMENT. BACK COPIES OF THE PIONEER IN BOOKS OF 10 CONSECUTIVE NUMBERS AT \$1 EACH, POSTPAID.