

Tells Of 25,000 Mile Trip Across U. S. To Alaskan Wilds

Following is a continuation of the round robin letters sent to friends by Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Patton, on their 25,000 mile trailer trip to Alaska.

The igloos are made of whale-bone sheathed over with drift wood and seal skin. Sod is piled up outside and then snow does the rest. Being below ground and dome like in shape the blizzards do not hit them. The igloo we were in was spic and span. The Eskimos along the coast from Kotzebue to Barrow are a fine race, tall, well built and intelligent. They are too far away to be harmed greatly by the whites and still cling to their own ways. They are such a happy people, the slightest thing bringing a hearty, happy smile and laugh to their faces.

We visited their store and P. O. run by a smart native on a cooperative basis.

All afternoon Mr. Ripley told each native we met, that if they wanted to dance that night (it being Saturday night) the ball room would be heated. They would have to hire their own orchestra but they were welcome. They started to arrive at 7 p.m. Mr. R. told us they would have to meditate for at least a couple of hours and we had better stay in their apartment until the spirit moved. The orchestra assembled by eight and they had to meditate. Their musical instrument is a head of a drum, a hoop with seal gut stretched tautly across. They use a long flexible wand and strike only the rims. When the tempo speeds up, the center of the wand bends inward, striking the gut. Different tones are obtained by different degrees of wetting the gut. This they get by rubbing it with water on their hands. We arrived at the ball at nine, quite the proper time, both here and at home to go to a dance. Mr. Ripley formally introduces us with a nice speech of welcome, telling them we had come all the way from Chicago, just to see Eskimos living as they should and had picked out Tigara, because there we would be welcome. It took another hour of meditation for this to be considered. You know time and unnecessary labor mean little to a native. As one native said to a white man shovelling off the snow from his front walk, "why do all that work, sun take 'em away."

About ten the drums started and the drummers began to sing, joined in little by little by the guests. Then the dancers got up, each dancing alone, some times only one on the floor then a half dozen. Old and young men and women they lost themselves in the rhythm of the drums, apparently wholly absorbed in the joy of dancing. One old woman, not a day under 80, joined in. At first they were shy of us, but once they started to dance, I am sure they didn't even know we existed. The dance went on for a couple of hours and then the drums stopped. It was over, except for more meditation. Mr. R. made a little speech and I thanked them and told them how happy we were to be there, whereupon each came up and shook our hands and bade us good night.

They were genuinely glad to see us and enjoyed meeting us and looking us over. They are a happy people and totally unspoiled. I hope they may always remain so and not be tamed by the busy whites, who try to thrust white man's law, religion and customs down their throats.

Next morning after a breakfast of seal liver and a perfect sleep in a peach of a bed, Sue and I wandered up to the mission to see the cemetery and get pictures of our friends going to church in their gaily colored snow suits, worn over their fur parkas.

The cemetery is most unique, the only one like it. All around is what

looks like a picket fence, only it is made of whale bone. The gate is two ribs of the largest whale ever caught there, curving together at the top. Sue's feet got chilly so she went back to the school house, but I watched the people trudging along the mile trail. As they approached I worked my movie stopping only as they came up to shake hands and wish me a good morning. It was hard to realize I was 200 miles north of the circle in the dead of winter. It was a calm, clear, beautiful day, about 25 below with the sun shining brightly in the south. With plenty of clothes I was warm and thoroughly enjoyed the greetings of my new Eskimo friends.

As the radio weather reports to the south were not so good I could only attend the start of their service. The Archdeacon runs high church, appealing to their love of pageantry. The women and children sit on one side of the chapel and the men on the other. All the responses are sung in their own tongue and it is truly beautiful to hear them sing in their native language. They love to sing and dance and have very melodious voices mostly in the minor key.

Weather from Kotzebue made us hurry along so we were in the air headed south at 12:30. Reached Kotzebue in 1 1/2 hours and landed again on the sea. By night a howling blizzard rolled in from the south and everything 200 yards away was obliterated by the whirling snow. The storm lasted all next day, but we spent the time at the Trading Post, watching Warren Ferguson work his radio trying to locate one of his planes that had been forced down coming from Fairbanks. There had been no report from the plane for two days.

We got off for Fairbanks after an extra day there during which Sue had Mary Davidowic, Paul's wife, make her a snow shirt to go over her parka, and got a pair of wolf leggings to reach from her umkluks to above the bottom of her parka. All dressed up she is warm and how she waddles, with her arms hanging straight out from her sides like toothpicks stuck in. Only her face showing, peering out from a big wolf ruff around the hood.

We followed the Sealwick to the divide and then cut down the Koyukuk to a trading post called Cut Off that had no radio. We suspected Warren's plane had run out of gas and been forced down there being grounded for 3 days on account of storms. It was and had taken off from Kotzebue 2 hours before we arrived. Five hours flight landed us safe and sound back in Fairbanks after 2,000 miles in the air.

I forgot to mention one more experience at Tigara. Sue wanted to see some polar bear, so we flew up almost to Cape Lisburne and circled over 5 miles from shore over the Arctic Ocean. Everything was frozen solid, not even any open leads, so we missed calling on Mr. and Mrs. Polar Bear. They follow the seals near open water which might have been 50 miles out for all we knew. It didn't seem wise to risk going out, with always the danger of a forced landing and an offshore wind coming up and driving the ice away.

We are busy packing up to get away next Thursday, so ta-ta for now from your synthetic Eskimo friends.

DILL'S HOME BARBER SHOP
21 North Second Street
First house north of Central Avenue on East side of Street

HAIRCUTTING
Adults 40c
Children 35c

15 Years in Highland Park
Telephone H. P. 5435

Inklings from Neighboring Towns

Condell Memorial hospital at Libertyville is free of financial indebtedness and on Dec. 31, 1939, had a cash balance on hand of \$9,200, the board of directors reported Monday at the annual meeting of the Condell Memorial hospital association. This is an increase of cash on hand over 1938 of approximately \$2,000, according to Clarence Hanover, secretary of the board.

Fire, last Tuesday night, gutted the business building at 748-750 Elm street, Winnetka.

The building is owned by the Chicago, North Shore, and Milwaukee railroad company. The first floor was occupied by the Conney's Community Pharmacy, and the second floor tenants were the Milton Kritzer dental laboratories, the Central Domestic Employment Agency, the Ellen Beauty salon, and the grade separation project office of the electric line.

The fire, of unknown origin, started in the basement of the building and had apparently been long under way before it was discovered at 8:45 o'clock.

A dream dating back nearly 25 years came to the verge of reality Thursday evening when the village board unanimously approved the plans submitted by the library board for a new Glencoe public library.

The new library building, designed along simple Georgian lines with a view of creating an intimate friendly atmosphere, will face north on Park avenue immediately west of Glencoe road. Most of the cost of the building, estimated at about \$90,000, including equipment and landscaping, will be defrayed from funds now on hand in the library building fund which was started in 1917. The balance, amounting to \$37,500, will be raised by the sale

of bonds, if approved by referendum ballot in the village election April 2.

Libertyville will have a remembrance of the work of J. E. O. Pridmore, famous Chicago architect who died last Thursday, in the proposed plan for enlargement of Cook Memorial Library. Mr. Pridmore submitted the plan voluntarily at a joint meeting last fall of the village and township library boards, after he had seen a news story. The Pridmore plan calls for wings to be added to the north and south sides of the present structure, which would be resurfaced, and the entire plan, if carried through, would give Libertyville a modern, spacious library.

"In order to provide for future growth in Lake Forest, the board of education of the Lake Forest Public Schools has purchased the property belonging to Mrs. Fred Hayner on North Sheridan road. A school building will be erected on this property when there is sufficient growth in Lake Forest's population to warrant the expansion," said Edgar S. Oddy, member of the board and chairman of the building and grounds committee.

Purchase by the board of the Hayner property will provide for school needs in that direction for the next 25 years although actual construction of a building may not be required for some five or ten years.

The tract purchased is a little over four acres and the total cost was approximately \$16,000.

Announce Lecture On Christian Science

First Church of Christ, Scientist of Highland Park, announces a free lecture on Christian Science by James G. Rowell, C.S.B. of Kansas City, Mo., Friday evening, February 23rd at eight o'clock in the Elm Place Schol auditorium. Mr. Rowell is a member of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.

County Tuberculosis Association Holds Annual Meeting

The annual meeting and dinner of the Lake County Tuberculosis Association will be held on Tuesday, February 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the Karcher hotel, Waukegan. Both the meeting and the dinner are open to the public, but reservations must be made with Miss Orpha L. White, executive secretary, Court House, Waukegan, or telephone Majestic 1805, by noon Saturday, February 17.

Dr. Robinson Bosworth, Superintendent and Medical Director of the St. Clair County Tuberculosis Sanatorium, will be the speaker of the evening. Dr. Bosworth was formerly medical director of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Rockford and a former president of the Illinois Tuberculosis Association. The board members whose terms expire this year are: Dr. Theodore Proxmire and Edward L. Baker of

Lake Forest; Mrs. George W. Childs and Mrs. Howard F. Detmer of Highland Park; Dr. George Callahan, Rev. Howard Ganster and Harry A. Hall of Waukegan; Dr. J. R. Ross of Wauconda, and Edgar T. Stephens of Zion.

I Found the "Orchid of the Sacred Sleep." Lured by a weird Philippine legend, The American Weekly's roving correspondent goes in quest of, and discovers "Saguy-Yeppay," the fatal flower that has controlled the destiny of an island tribe for centuries. This fascinating feature appears in The American Weekly, the magazine distributed with next Sunday's Chicago Herald-American.

Quality Cleaners
Phone H. P. 178
RELIABLE LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING CO.

HAVE MORE PEP! FEEL BETTER!

SCIENCE SAYS IT HELPS 3 WAYS!

1. Helps you get more restful sleep by preventing 2 o'clock hunger.
2. Reduces the tax on your energy store that even sleeping takes.
3. Gives your body, in easily digestible form, a greater variety of nutritional essentials than any other food can provide.

BOWMAN MILK

First Showing!

Beautiful new spring styles in low-priced floor and table lamps

(Right)
I. E. S. All-Purpose Lamp
6-way lighting. Silver and gold or bronze-finished base. Eggshell or tan swirl pleated shade \$1295
Bridge lamp to match \$1295

(Left)
I. E. S. Bridge Lamp
3-way lighting. Bronze finished base. Attractive silk shade . . . \$1295
All-purpose 6-way lighting reflector lamp to match . \$1295

Come in and see our big, new stock of **BETTER-LIGHT LAMPS**

Brighten your home with their smart styling and soft, evenly-diffused light

I. E. S. Swinging-Arm Lamp
3-way lighting. Silver and gold or bronze finished base. Eggshell or tan shade \$1395

StyleSight Table Lamp
An entirely new type of lamp, combining distinctive beauty and good lighting in your favorite end-table size. Model shown is fitted Haeger pottery base mounted on wood. Choice of ivory, green or yellow. Harmonizing shantung shade over parchment paper. With focusing lens \$495

Many other models to choose from

OTHER DEALERS ARE ALSO OFFERING FINE VALUES IN MODERN LAMPS

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS
51 South St. Johns Avenue - Tel. H. P. 2900

Small Down Payment
Balance, plus small carrying charge, payable in convenient monthly amounts with your Electric Service bill.

Value



GMC LEADS in pulling power . . . fuel economy and modern engineering advancements . . .

Come in and see how much more you get for your money in a GMC Light-Duty Truck. GMC Super-DUTY Engines with revolutionary new POWER-PAK Pistons outpull all others. We can PROVE greatest gas economy in the field. And we'll show you other advantages no other truck can match.

Check GMC Prices Against the 3 Lowest!

Time payments through our own YMCA Plan at lowest available rates

STANGER'S GARAGE
133 North Second Street Highland Park, Illinois

GMC TRUCKS GASOLINE - DIESEL