



AOS TREW RESCUES YOUNG CAA SKATER

A cash award of \$250 was given William Trew who saved the life of a girl skater when she broke through the ice on a small lake near the Kodiak station.

Darrell Chaffin, station manager, sent the following account of the heroic act:

During a recent cold spell while the ice was forming nicely, some of the youngsters decided to rush the season and do a bit of skating on Elephant Lake, adjacent to the station. Twelve year old Susan Thomas, daughter of AOS Bob Thomas, broke thru the ice about thirty feet from shore in approximately eight feet of water. Fortunately, Bill Trew and his wife, Nina, had just arrived to watch the skaters and were the only adults at the scene.

Lacking any boards, poles or rope, Bill, without a thought of his own danger, immediately started crawling on his stomach on the thin, crackling ice, toward the struggling girl. His wife followed suit, and with her grasping his heels, Bill managed to pull Susan out onto the ice and into shore.

We believe Bill's presence of mind, quick thinking and courage averted a possible tragedy at the risk of his own life. An attempt is being made to procure proper recognition for his heroic action.

Use of the lake by skaters will be more carefully watched and controlled hereafter.

OBSERVERS ARE OPTIMISTIC ON EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A major part of the drive in the next session of Congress by the Federal Retirement Protective Association will be toward retirement at any age after 30 years of service.

Prospects for this provision and for other important advances in retirement policies are brighter now than in many years, according to Chris Lample, president of the FRPA. Several Congressmen friendly to the purposes and goals of the association are back, according to Lample, and he believes that the legislative program which he and Fred Toombs, secretary of the association, present, will receive very favorable consideration. The optimism expressed by Lample

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE IN ALASKA, BUT CAA MUST MAKE IT FIT TO DRINK

"If you think machinery can be cantankerous in this northern climate, you ought to try to produce acceptable water at every CAA station."

This is the wail of Wesley G. Rose of the Structures and Utilities Section upon whom has devolved much of the waterworks problems handled by the section. Wes and his boss, Dave M. Dishaw, have the deepest sympathy with CAA wives who must endure bad water, but they have only Mother Nature to fall back on and she fails them often. They have found it useless to tell housewives that all laundered clothes look the same at a given station, so they keep on removing the iron and salt content which plague their lives in 20 of our 36 stations.

GREETINGS

Ring the bells of Christmas
Everywhere tonight!
Give your heart in friendship
Inspire all with the light
Of the Star. Across the earth
Noel heralds the Baby's birth.

From the cheery land of mukluk,
Igloo, and the frosted sleigh,
Via Santa and his reindeer,
Editorially, we say

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!

Marjorie Levine, AN-35, Seattle.

Most trouble is encountered where permafrost exists. Unscientific station employees punch down a shallow well in many places and produce clear water with good taste. They say then that "those scientists in the Regional Office at Anchorage" are wrong to insist on deep wells. But when the air hits the shallow well water, the mineral content, especially the iron, oxidizes and it takes on the appearance of a weak cup of coffee treated with soured cream.

In places like Nome, the ocean has been all over the place. There are three beaches at Nome, one of them being back against the hill miles from the present shore. Private contractors haul and sell water at Nome, in necessarily small quantities, and the CAA station manager has his troubles with CAA wives who have lived in places where the turn of a faucet works miracles. Wells at Nome must go deep, and still they produce salty water in the cold months when the tundra freezes and the ocean seeps into the subterranean areas.

lemmingade

Water is affected in other ways, too. Somebody left a cover off a well drain at Moses Point, and in a short while two feet of the three feet of water in the well was filled with the bodies of lemmings, the strange little Arctic rodent which migrates periodically to mass destruction. Nobody at that station appreciated the wag who described the water as "lemmingade".

CAA stations in southeast Alaska have little trouble. Great glaciers and ice caps---one of them as big as all of Switzerland, rush streams down to the sea. These streams are thick with glacial silt, but a well sunk alongside produces fine water with the silt filtered out. At stations like North Dutch

See **Water** Page 7

See **Employees** Page 5

JUNEAU

Juneau, of course, is not the biggest tourist attraction in Alaska, but is now noted for having three girls of the U.S. down for a full five-day stay.

The weather not being what is usually is here, stranded turn-around passengers Glen Dean Burgess, Pat Mayo and Ruth Bickers in Juneau, over the week-end of November 1st, waiting for the H5 to get airborne for Anchorage. Peggy Lindergaard took the strandeers on sight-seeing trips to Mendenhall Glacier, Douglas Island, the Auke Bay area and through the new Airport Terminal Building and the present CAA station. Juneau sends word to those three gals, "Come back again, any time."

The dedication of the new Juneau Airport Terminal Building was held in the capital city on November 15 at 3:00 p.m. Master of Ceremonies was Bob Wells, Secretary of the local Chamber of Commerce, with Mr. Al Hulen, Regional Administrator and Mr. G.O. Kempton, Chief of Airports Division representing CAA. Acting Governor Waino Hendrickson gave the key note address, with several talks given representatives of each airline serving Juneau. Mayor McSpadden received and accepted the keys of the Terminal Bldg.

EMT Charles Story and family departed Sisters Island on November 5 enroute to Oklahoma City where Chuck will attend ILS/VOR and TACAN training. The Storys will vacation in Wyoming before going to Oklahoma City, and are planning their return to Sisters Island next spring.

For Philatelists

A special cacheted envelope for the new seven-cent Alaska airmail stamp, of interest to stamp collectors and collectors of Alaskan souvenirs, will be issued by the Gastineau Stamp Club of Juneau. The cachet will cover about one third of the envelope and will be in blue and gold. It features an Alaska flag superimposed on an outline of the map of Alaska. The envelopes will be canceled on the first day of issue of the new stamp, which will be the day Alaska is admitted to the Union, and will be mailed from the capital city of Juneau. These first day of issue cancellations will feature a picture cancellation honoring Judge Wickersham, an early statehood advocate. The cacheted envelopes may be ordered from the Gastineau Stamp Club, 104 Front Street, Juneau, Alaska. Prices are 25¢ for an envelope with a single stamp, 35¢ for an envelope with a pair of stamps and 50¢ for an envelope with a block of four stamps. The cacheted envelope can also be purchased with a plate number block for \$1.65. Governor Waino Hendrickson has designated by proclamation the cachet of the Gastineau Stamp Club as the official cachet for the new Alaska stamp. The stamp itself will be in the

CAA KIDS STAND OUT



CAA youngsters at Cordova are leaders in Cordova High School's newly-formed "Aurora" chapter of the National Honor Society.

Philip Smith, son of the Station Manager, is president, Judy Leise, daughter of SAOS Bob Leise is secretary and Maureen Thompson, daughter of Wayne Thompson, Equipment Mechanic, is a charter member. They are all "Mile 13 Kids", and they continue the leadership in the community that usually includes the young people of CAA and Weather Bureau families at the station.

Judy left, above, is the true Alaskan of the trio. Philip's mother taught Judy's mother in High School back in Montana years ago. Maureen's father started with the CAA in 1951 at King Salmon, where Philip's father, Frank Smith was then Station Manager. Maureen was born in Bozeman, Montana, and Philip in Missoula, Montana.

CORDOVA

New arrivals at Cordova are Earl and Becky McCall, coming from Anchorage. Earl is the new EMT, replacing Pete LaPlante who has transferred.

The ducks and geese have all gone south and the persevering hunters are now diligently stalking deer, but as yet to no avail. Not even the ingredients of deer track soup.

STMGFR Frank Smith has returned from a week in Juneau, where, with several other STMGERS, he attended an administrative training course under the direction of regional training officer Gil Reese.

regular large commemorative size and will feature the stars of the Alaska flag superimposed upon a map of Alaska with a background scene depicting a scenic Alaska view. The color of the stamp will be blue.

CHANGES FORCED IN RETIREMENT RACKET

Dear Editor:

I have been reading your's and Mr. Ralph Slone's columns on "How to Retire Philosophically" and wish to say that you folks sure hit it on the head; however, it has ruined my plans completely.

As I am now rolling into 31 years of Government service, I was looking forward to retirement in a few years and to this end I had developed a philosophy somewhat similar to what you fellows have been advocating. I started in by hiding my gruff nature and putting on the political smile and back slap, gradual like, so as not to excite any suspicion. In this way I had hoped that upon my retirement I might fall heir to a Celestial Telescope, 4" inch refractor, or a complete wood or metal working shop.

Now with all the folks reading your items, I know what they are thinking, and being of an extremely sensitive nature and backward to a degree, I find this situation very embarrassing. I must now revert to type by being gruff and scowling when I pass people instead of that ready smile and pat on the back. I've also got to start saving my nickels and dimes and maybe even open up a side business again in order to get the things upon retirement that I was secretly hoping I could get at no cost. I've quit chewing gum, smoking, and by getting a haircut every 3 months instead of 2, I might just make it. I also hope my many friends will not take offense when I growl at them.

Mr. Editor, I think you and Mr. Slone should be awful careful on the type of items you write because you are sure hurting a wonderful racket.

Eugene N. Berato

DO YOU LIKE TO POKE AROUND IN JUNK AND SAVE U. S. MONEY?

We might be happier working for the government if we could let ourselves go and use everyday language. For example, if we could say the Department of Commerce is looking for a Master Scrounger to work with federal agencies in Alaska, instead of advertising for an "incumbent" to "assist federal agencies in Alaska on personal property utilization activities". They want a man who can find surplus and excess stuff and move it into the hands of people who can use it. He "devises, plans and executes techniques and methods for obviating new procurement through use of excess. Convinces agencies of advantages derived from use of excess property through initiative, ingenuity, tact, persuasiveness and logic." In other, simpler words, he scrounges. Grade 12, anybody interested?

SCANTS makes report on Mukluk ant problem

Have just this date figured out ant problem. None of the answers contained in your last month organ can be considered correct. Considerable research performed with Southeastern type "Bulged Bottom Flinkus" ants definitely proved that the healthy well adjusted flinkus will not walk slantwise around square corners and go down hill at the same time. We used an old hand ball court (three sided) for our experiments and assigned 3 persons to watch each ant, not allowing more than 4 ants on the court at the same time, thus keeping down the total watchers to 15 persons. The only conclusion reached was that ants are like people.

Not one single flinkus got a direct start. Without exception they milled around like government employees 10 minutes before quitting time. Watchers noticed that when two ants met they poked their noses at each other several times and both reacted as if receiving a slight electric shock. One watcher opined that this shock business was nature's way of keeping ant's noses out of other ant's businesses. One small flinkus kept crawling into the cracks between the wall boards. (Your problem did not state how the walls were finished). Watchers agreed that this little fellow suffered from the effects of previous performance ratings which evidently affected his personality. Several times two or three ants appeared to engage in jousts of some sorts indicating disagreement and discontent whereupon a big Station Manager type ant would dart through a knothole and remain concealed with only his antenna showing until the jousting was discontinued.

Two Regional Office type ants made very little attempt if any to get going. They stopped at the slightest provocation several times holing up together very much like they were on blanket travel orders with the maximum per diem rates.

Another ARTC type ant charged around as if trying to maintain two ant's lengths between the slow and the fast ants, and three EMT types experimented with, did nothing but adjust their antennas. Many field type ants darted around and over each other all week long but on Saturday they slowed down considerably, evidently sensing that the R.O. was closed for the weekend.

All the AOS type ants placed on the wall were reluctant to move, apparently anticipating that this experiment was just another flight plan survey. It was noted that one-half of the P and S type ants kept trying to fill all the cracks in the wall with any material at hand and the other half were busy removing the material from the cracks.

B. Zvolantsek, Secretary
SCANTS

(Southeastern Committee of the Ants
Natural Tendency Society)

TRY TO STOP THE PERSISTENT HUNTER

Harry Schuermeyer, GSDA, Anchorage, has a freezer full of moose and caribou meat which cost him untold bother, some acute anguish and the usual hard labor.

After a series of adventures on three hunts that rival the voyages of Ulysses, Harry figures his meat came to 43.3 cents a pound, and "if the cost of ammo, gasoline or license goes up between now and next year, maybe I'll stay home and buy a beef". Anyhow, the seven Schuermeyers will eat good this winter, thanks to Papa's persistence.

First, Harry made numerous stops during the hunting season at established landing areas "letting eager hunters know that all General Safety Inspectors were watching, in hopes to stop those who were going to put two moose, two hunters and 500 pounds of gear in a two-place trainer and then kill themselves. This visiting he kept up until August 20. A week later he, his wife, and son, Harry, Jr.; Jack Denny, CAA carpenter and his wife and son, Jerry, took off on their own hunting trip, scheduled to last over Labor Day.

Easy Hunting

They took it easy, killed one small caribou and were lazily waiting for two others to wander nearer their camp, when a neighbor drove by with news that Marcia Schuermeyer, 14, had a ruptured appendix and was in the hospital. That put Harry into a spell of breakneck action. Alone, he drove 115 miles to the nearest phone and had to "declare an emergency" to reach his home through busy signals. Barbara, his oldest daughter, told him Inspector Eldon Gubler was at Gulkana ready to fly him and his wife and son to Anchorage. So off he motored to Gulkana and he and Gubler headed for a small strip near the hunting camp.

"Looks awful small", said Gubler, and it was. So they dropped a note in one of Harry's shoes instructing Denny to drive the family to Paxton, where Denny arrived 80 minutes later.

In the air, headed home, "we couldn't get the dang gear up on the Comanche" and that set the inspectors to figuring. They couldn't make Merrill Field non-stop in daylight, so they landed again at Gulkana, got into the Schuermeyer station wagon and headed home, arriving at 5:50 a.m., Sunday, August 31.

Quick, to the hospital, and there they found that the diagnosis was wrong, and Marcia would be released at 1:00 p.m. That called for a long sigh, mixed with thanksgiving, and a rueful comment on a ruined hunting trip. You'd think Schuermeyer would be satisfied, but no.

Back for More

September 5, he and two neighbors are down on the Kenai, "face to face with

Poetry Corner

(Dedicated to Ralph W. Slone and inspired by his recent suggestion in the Mukluk Telegraph that the composition of limericks is a nice hobby with which to while away our less productive moments.)

A man in a beach house bemoaned
The seagulls that circled and groaned.
"To expel them," he swore,
"From this once peaceful shore,
I'm resolved to leave no tern unstoned."

An indigent 'cellist named Roy
Smashed his 'cello to bits like a toy;
Which impels me to say
That all work and no pay
Can indeed make of Bach a dull joy.

A hard-working plumber named Jules
Will be married per union rules.
He was carried away
By a dancer, they say,
When he saw she'd forgotten her tulles.

Unable to revel or roister,
But cozy enough in its cloister,
A little pearl perished,
Unseen and uncherished,
Yet convinced that the world was its oyster.

---O. R.

Apology

This is a good place to apologize to Ormind Robbins, author of the above, for omitting his by-line on last month's article "How to Retire Comfortably". We are sorry. His ideas on retirement were certainly practical, and now he shows a pleasing poetic strain.

seven moose, five cows and two legals, 75 to 80 yards away". Schuermeyer was to shoot first, but he held his pose so long his friend whispered, "Ain't you gonna shoot?" Harry whispered, "Yeah, soon as I get my eyes uncrossed!" His bad luck was hurting him. Shortly, a moose bearing a 62-inch rack, supported by lots of good meat, dropped with the shot...dropped into 15 inches of water.

After ten hours of back-breaking labor, the three hunters headed for camp with all the meat they could carry, one hind quarter weighing 175 pounds. Next morning at four they were on the trail, and arrived at the kill at 2:30 p.m. An Alaska brown bear had breakfasted and lunched on their moose and all they were able to salvage was a right front leg that weighed 135 pounds.

And More

Well, you'd think Harry would be tired--and maybe even satisfied even after dividing the meat three ways. But he was off again September 19 with a neighbor and Eldon D. Butchers, husband of Susan Butchers, AN-82, for more moose. "We flattened two brothers, one with a 44 and the other with a 45 inch rack and divided the meat three ways."

"So the seven Schuermeyers will eat, but at this rate, considering the wear and tear on the nervous system, this ain't cheap! That Marcia and her appendix!"

GOLD, HORSES, STEAMBOATS, PHONES COLOR WATSONS' ALASKAN MEMORIES

"This is Lillian. Tell the women not to go out today. Jerry is drunk again."

Lillian was the phone operator at Dome Creek, Chatanika, Fairbanks and Iditarod back before the Twenties and Jerry was a small white mule belonging to a Mr. Cleveland on Dome Creek. Today, Lillian is Mrs. Harry Watson who operates the switchboard for the CAA in Anchorage, a veteran of the pioneering days in Alaska with a lively interest in life still buzzing beneath her snow white hair. Harry, also a CAA veteran, ex-secretary to Alaskan Governors, prospector, communications and transportation expert, is retired and enjoying life in the prettiest house in Anchorage, a 7-room log cabin on "L" Street. Jerry---well Jerry's death saddened Dome and Iditarod, and his ultimate end as food for sled dogs caused an indignant uproar among his friends there.

Perhaps Jerry was typical of the life the Watsons led in Alaska beginning back in 1907 when Harry started work for the North American Trading and Transportation Company which operated 15 steam boats along the Yukon. Things were unconventional, easy-going, like Jerry was when he would walk to the swinging doors of the saloon on Dome Creek, poke his nose in and wait for his beer. Informal and unconventional barflies always obliged by supplying the mule with beer until he pulled his foam covered snout from the last bucket, and wandered uncertainly down the street. Then he pursued women only, never men. And with his white ears laid back he chased and scared any woman in sight. Therefore, Lillian's warning.

They Had to Talk

As in any pioneering, transportation and communication were the big needs. Watson moved from one field to the other covering the Yukon Basin and operating his own wireless station and telephone system at Fortuna Ledge.

Steamboats, narrow gauge trains, horse-drawn stages, carried Lillian and her mother to Dome in 1907 where her sister and brother were located.

Wireless and telephone lines hold the Watson story together like the gold links on the 60-inch nugget necklace which was presented to Lillian's mother years ago.

"Usually a town sprang up on each new gold discovery", Lillian Watson remembers and up and down each tributary creek settlements were established. Lillian's brother-in-law, Henry A. Weir, installed telephone systems in each new camp for the Northern Commercial Co. Therefore, Lillian and her sister, Cora



Weir, were operators at one of these new discoveries, doing 12-hour shifts each day and night, with no coffee breaks, somehow keeping the scattered population in contact.

Each new camp flushed and retreated. Iditarod at one time had a population of about 10,000 and had phone lines to Flat, Otter and many outlying camps. Then, upon new discoveries at Ruby and tributary creeks, Iditarod suddenly dwindled to about 500---(and now there remains one lone deserted warehouse). Stampede days permitted only the crudest method of living. Passing Ruby on a steamboat, Mrs. Watson saw the banks of the Yukon dotted with restless sleeping prospectors under tarpaulins or canvas.

But the things she heard on those phones!

Robbery! Possel

One morning the voice of a mining operator, whom she recognized, screamed over the wire, "I've been robbed, get the marshall quick!" Lillian called the marshall and spread the news that 3 pokes of gold had been stolen from the tram enroute from the mines. (The tram consisted of log rails and a mule drawn truck from Flat to Iditarod.) Within 30 minutes the Iditarod population moved to the hills and before nightfall the 3 pokes of gold were found at widely separated spots over a 3 mile area. Later the robbers were caught and finally convicted.

At another time at Dome City an excited voice in early morning called from Lower Dome saying that he had just killed a man and wanted to talk to the marshall---who could not be reached at the time---so he walked to the telephone office (a distance of 4 miles)---where he paid his telephone toll and sat for an hour waiting for the marshall. He was convicted and served 12 years.

FRIEND INDEED!

A real friend is one who will hand you a ticket for an over-the-pole flight to Copenhagen and \$200 to spend on an expense-paid two-week vacation.

That's the kind of a friend Robert J. Perko, construction engineer in the Airports Division is to Harvey Turner of the Alaska Department of Aviation. Of course, Nancy Perko is important in this story because she won the free ticket to the great Holmenkollen jumping ski meet in Oslo given away by the Anchorage Ski Club at its big Rally November 22. Transportation is on SAS. The ticket, spending money and expenses are worth a total of \$1,200.

"Neither of us could go," said Perko. "So we gave it to Harvey."

The Pickle Barrel

Once on Valentine's Day at a mining camp dance at Otter Creek, while passing from one room to another in a miner's residence, Lillian, thinking she was stepping on a rug, fell through the cellar door and landed in a barrel of pickles. Though she finished the dance and evening, she still bears the scars of the fall.

Just to See His Girl

Lillian and Harry met in Iditarod in 1912. She moved to Fairbanks in 1916. Early in the Fall of 1917 Harry hitched up his Irish Setter dog team at Marshall and travelled about 1700 miles to see the girl of his choice. This visit culminated 8 years later in their wedding in the Governor's Mansion at Juneau where Governor George Parks acted as best man on November 11th---Armistice Day---the date the war ended but Harry insists it was the day the war began.

"Harry Watson Day"

Harry joined the CAA in 1942 after he had spent a year organizing the Alaska Mine Owners Association. He moved up in the organization until he was budget officer and retired in 1954. When he retired, the biggest farewell party in CAA Alaska history started in Anchorage, and grew into a "Harry Watson Day".

Mrs. Watson joined the CAA in 1943, back at her old post as "central", a job she fills today with the same efficiency she showed in the early mining camp days but with much improved equipment.

Harry and Lillian make the yard of their log cabin a photographer's delight when summer hits Anchorage.

Today planes flash over the trails they used to follow, some of which they broke themselves. Today their memories are of the days when gold was the lure and Alaska the climax of their adventurous lives.

Air Carrier Inspector Norm Schrader accompanied the Northern Consolidated Airlines crew to the Fairchild Factory to conduct airline transport-type ratings for the pilots in the new aircraft. He also flew in the first plane from the factory to the home base in Anchorage.

The F-27 was in Fairbanks for about 10 days undergoing cold weather performance tests required for scheduled air carrier operation.

Two Administrative Clerks in the Air Carrier Regional Office showed interest in a CAA position offered in the Orient. Chief Boyle, overhearing this, chose to tease the ladies, saying "good"---until he found out that they were serious. He spent the rest of the afternoon convincing them that they should stay!

The Air Carrier Safety District Office at Anchorage International Airport has moved to temporary quarters until their permanent offices become available in the PNA building, east of the terminal. They plan to move to their permanent office about the 25th of November.

The following Administrative Clerks have been appointed as Mukluk news reporters for the Air Carrier Safety Division: Lu Rains, Anchorage; Peggy Lyle, Fairbanks; Neva Dales, Juneau; and Sally Kranz, Regional Office.

Inspector Vernon M. Denison attended the Jet Engine Course at the Aeronautical Center for two weeks in October.

Bud Seltenreich and his contractor have been caught trespassing. With too many thousands of his own money in a partly-finished house, they found that his line would be running through the center of his neighbor's garage. The neighbor is a reasonable type and Bud expects an amicable settlement, but he worries about the delay in getting into his new home in the Turnagain district.

Employees Cont. from Page 1

costs of hospitalization, medical and surgical charges, with the possibility that government would pay half instead of a third of the costs of such insurance; increased retirement benefits through the use of 2% in the formula for computing retirement; no general pay raise for classified and postal authorities but more support for boosting salaries of many employees; higher starting salaries for many employees, and incentive pay increases; and a serious consideration of the President's plan to set up a board to study the whole subject of federal salaries. Klutts says he believes something could be done in the next year on the long-debated plan to tie federal salaries to living costs.

He points out that sweeping changes in the Senate and House Post Office and

12 GET AWARDS FOR IDEAS AND WORK

Eleven Fifth Region employees recently received awards for suggestions, and one has been given a Sustained Superior Performance award.

They are: Harvey E. Seabrook, SMT, Farewell, \$50, for suggesting AC power outlets on the front of electronic equipment racks; Leonard E. Zaber, AOS, Kodiak, \$50, Student Pilots Flight Information Kit; Kenneth W. Hunt, Electronic Technician, Annette, \$50, THV transmitters at Annette and other stations; Eva M. Underwood, Clerk-Steno, Anchorage Station, \$10, modification of Form ACA-968; Katherine R. Love, Engineering Draftsman, \$10, protective covers for vertical filing systems; Blanche M. Schofield, Telegraphic Teletypewriter Operator, \$10, Sustained Superior Performance; Alver Johnson, EMT, Juneau, \$50, safety galvanized lock nuts with spring washers for turnbuckles, (adopted in Region Five - \$35, adopted also in Region Three - \$25); James F. McKone, AN-675, \$10, airways beacon winter operation; Edward D. Dhabolt, EMT, Northway, \$25, weather-proof outlets for head-bolt heaters; Fred M. Poorman, Diesel Engine Mechanic, McGrath, \$10, easily constructed rack for cutting and welding tips, and \$50, instructions for the operation of the fire truck; and Thomas Neville, Jr., Station Mechanic Foreman, \$25, periodic fire inspection charts.

BIG CHIEF SENDS GREETINGS

I buy Piper, sixty-five horse
Learnum fly, take short course.
Now hot pilot, bendum back stick
Nosem up, get big kick.
Now me happy, Christmas time here
Drinkum down, ten cans beer.
I fly Piper, feelum no pain
Flyum cub, like jet plane.
Now my Piper, decorate tree
Stretchum glide, cub and me.
I sell Piper, sixty-five buck
Bustum leg, my tough luck.
Now you listen, I tellum you
Drinkum booze, stay ig gloo.
You just lucky - me still here
Twishum you, Happy New Year.

by Ben Z.

Rich man, poor man, white man, Chief.
This is good advice to all of them.

Civil Service Committees could have advantageous effects for the federal employee. But he warns against expecting immediate action, since it takes some time for each new Congress to organize and set up its staff.

I don't care what your name is fat boy---get those reindeer off my roof!

KING SALMON

Phil Chatlain's airplane broke loose from its tie-down in a rough windstorm just a few days after Phil left on a five-week vacation in Montana. The wreckage was something to behold, and we predicted Phil would give up flying, at least for a while. But either he doesn't discourage easily or he was looking for an excuse to buy a new airplane. We understand he flew a new Super Cruiser back to Anchorage and we look for it here any day now.

The Katmai Flying Club is in process of organization. Charter members are Bill Johnson, Sid Nally, Red Harrop, Joe Galeota, Bob Wermers, Jim Parmley, Vaughan Howard, Mike Boslet, L.E. Baily, and G. V. Cline. We have bought a J3, now in Anchorage. And speaking of Mike Boslet, we thought he would be around quite a while, maybe marry and settle down here. He bought a car one day. The next day he joined the flying club. The following day he was notified he had been selected for a job he had bid on so long ago he had forgotten all about it. Anybody wanna buy a car or a share in a flying club?

Also, Tower Chief Jack Dempsey has left us for a transfer and promotion to Chicago Midway Tower. Jack had several years service in Alaska, both in communications and control. The Jack Dempsey we are talking about is not the famous heavyweight fighter. Hard to convince him sometimes, though. G. V. Cline, SMT, is in Anchorage for a three weeks course in low-frequency ranges.

New arrivals are EMT Tom Clark and wife Charlene. Tom's hometown is near Minneapolis and Charlene's from near St. Louis.

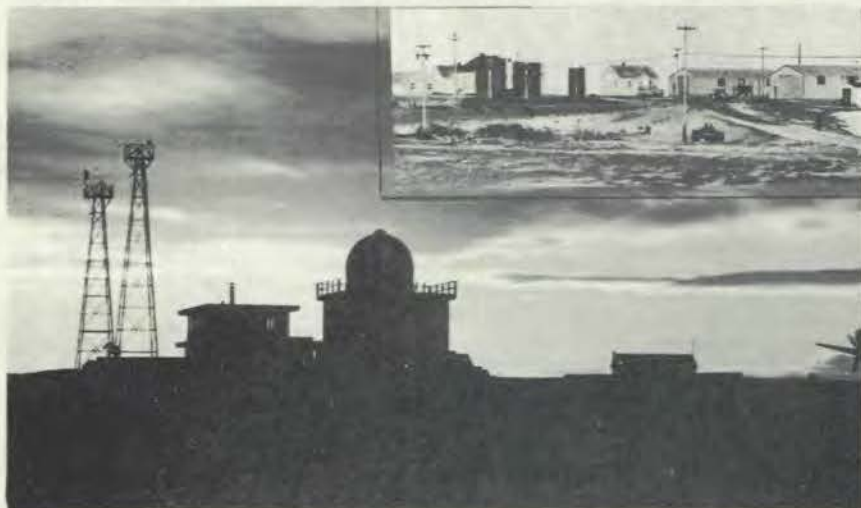
The Katmai Club has been going great since the grand opening. We have had several bingo sessions, square dances, movies, and an uproarious Halloween party. Next big affair is to be a Thanksgiving dinner, to be prepared and served by the men. Turkey, punkin pie, etc.

Also had a turkey shoot Sunday the 16th. Turkeys, hams, and bacon were the prizes and they were won by Dutch Sturdevant, Bob Wermers, Phil Chatlain, Edwin Anderson, Bob Wright, Joe Galeota and Mrs. Bill Johnson.

JIMINY MOVES AGAIN

Jiminy Crickets, symbol of the Anchorage United Givers Fund, now graces the office of the Air Terminals Division, third division to achieve 100% participation. Jiminy was made by Jack Denny, CAA's carpenter, and decorated by Rogene Thompson, as an inspiration for generous CAA giving. Personnel Division and the Staff, have previously had him on display. Denny gave him wings to make him a proper symbol for CAA use.

BETHEL STARTS NEW LIFE ABOVE FLOOD DANGERS



Bethel's new "ad building" as seen from CAA quarters. Insert: The quarters as seen from the field.

Acceptance by the CAA November 3 of the contractor's work at Bethel starts a new life for the nine CAA structures moved bodily across the river to the new field.

The inspection party, headed by Jerry Howard, poked and probed and made the usual adjustments with George Nourse, Assistant General Manager of Morrison-Knudson Company, and pronounced the work generally satisfactory. The inspection party then looked over the old field, and lonesome remains of the CAA "village" there and planned the final move which would be setting up of communications equipment in the new Administration Building at the new field, to take over the instant the old station is shut down.

The new quarters are on a hill 200 yards from the Administration Building, a neat, standard CAA town with accommodations for 13 families and 6 bachelors

of the CAA and Weather Bureau Bethel force.

Pots and pans and toys and canned goods stayed in the houses as the contractor hoisted them on wheels, towed them to big barges for the trip across the wide Kuskokwim and then yanked them up the river bank and across the tundra to their new home. Families will move back into their homes where only the foundation is new. A new idea in foundations is being tried at Bethel. Around each pile is a large sleeve which keeps the ground away from the pile so that as freezing and thawing occur the piles do not rise and drop, causing wracking of the house.

Two deep wells of 425 and 438 feet will supply water. Good roads lead into the village of Bethel, and for additional company, the station has a White Alice station and a big Native Service hospital nearby.

W-S Pay Increase

A pay increase for all Wage Schedule personnel in Alaska was recently approved by the Department of Commerce. This pay increase became effective with the next pay period beginning on November 2, and will be reflected in the paychecks received by employees on November 28.

It is estimated that the pay increase will average approximately 10 to 15 cents per hour for each employee, although in individual cases an employee may receive either more or less depending upon his grade and geographical location.

Official copies of the revised rates have been reproduced and are being distributed to all organizations in the Region. Individual employees may contact their supervisor if they are interested in looking at the new rates.

JIMINY MOVES AGAIN

The flying Jiminy Cricket award for 100% participation in the United Good Neighbor drive in Anchorage moved recently into the head office when the staff reached the 100% mark.

Space last month prevented our giving credit to the ingenious Jack Denny of the Anchorage station carpenter shop and Rogene Thompson of ARTC in producing the special award. They took Walt Disney's idea, used nationally as a symbol for the annual drive, and put CAA wings on him. Their handiwork appeared on TV and, according to Fred Allnutt, drive chairman, spurred givers throughout Anchorage CAA.

A girl may be both ignorant and shapely, but she is never ignorant of the fact that she is shapely.

A TOTEM! MEMORIAL FOR THE ALASKA CAA

Let's produce a totem pole memorializing the work of the CAA in Alaska.

A few more days and we, the low-descending Arctic sun will see no more, but the memories of the CAA in Alaska, among the residents and among a few thousand people who have worked with us here, will remain. Around a proper totem these memories could gather and remain fresh, and it would take its place among the lares and penates of many a CAA household.

The Mukluk hereby announces a contest for the design of such a totem. The rules will have to be simple. The design should be submitted in the form of a drawing, which need not be perfect in execution, but which should be clear to anyone charged with producing the final article. They will be judged on their effect in telling the story of the CAA in Alaska, on cleverness of idea, design and on their adherence to the tradition of totems. The prize will be---well the planning hasn't gone that far yet. And the judges haven't been named.

Animates-Inanimates

Ultimately a large replica of this totem will be erected in the Regional Office building. Copies will adorn the offices of our satellite Alaska stations, and miniatures will be made for the desks, mantles, trophy cases and memory shelves of our homes.

Totem, in the words of the Encyclopedia Britannica is from an Ojibway Indian word. The idea is common to many Indian tribes. "The term should be restricted to those cases where a systematic association of groups of persons with species of animals (occasionally plants or inanimate objects) is connected with a certain element of social organization." And that's enough of a definition for us, who are all familiar with totems, anyhow.

The CAA's history in Alaska is systematically associated with many inanimate objects: revolving beacons, landing strips, oil barges, communications stations, snogos, weather kiosks, omnis, commissaries, airplanes, rec halls, floods, appendicitis, SRA's, mountains, tundra, and on and on. As for animate objects, they are too plentiful to count and include bears, moose, porcupines, wolverines, ptarmigans and station managers. Perhaps this category should be restricted to three notable animates---Marshall Hoppin, Walter Plett and Allen Hulen, the only three who have headed the CAA in Alaska. Any of these could be worked into the totem to give it meaning and make it memorable.

The better designs submitted will be published in the Mukluk and eventually, a winner will be named. All are invited to compete.

"AND WE WILL WATCH THE ADULTS"-SCOUTS

And a Boy Scout shall lead them, and maybe order them on the Civair 15 which ferries CAA people between Woody Island and Kodiak.

The Scout Troop at Woody Island has produced the Civair 15. After detailing the proper behaviour of a passenger, and noting that "the speed and maneuverability of the Civair 15 is not great enough to return to my rescue in case that I should fall overboard in these waters", the Scouts make certain promises, one of which is:

"I understand that the Skipper is the Master of the vessel and that he is in full command. I will cheerfully obey his orders at all times and will conduct myself in such a manner that I will cause him no undue worry or concern while I am aboard."

Then, as if they had been observing their parents and adult behaviour, the boys added:

"If at any time that I should observe any other passenger, student or adult, conducting himself in any unsafe manner, I will try to be helpful by explaining to that person that his conduct is endangering his safety as well as that of the other passengers."

The code was signed by these Scouts: Frank R. Johnson, Charles M. Lee, Danny Harmon, Marcus Lee, Harold Frump, Dominic Panasiti, Jr. and Douglas Holroyd.

Water Cont. from Page 1

Island, rain was adequate, gathered in basins and kept in cisterns.

Electronic Help

These days they are placing their faith on electronic demineralizers which produce potable water out of brackish water at a low cost. The two installations the CAA has bought are promising. The one at Moses Point is producing satisfactorily and another at Kotzebue will be connected with a water supply later, and will deliver, Rose hopes, acceptable water to the CAA station there.

One popular conception is that Alaska is crowded with crystal, rushing mountain streams, potable and tasty. But at Kotzebue, Eskimos and federal workers alike haul their winter drinking water in the form of ice on dog sleds from a lake several miles away and pile it up in snowbanks beside the kitchen door. And at Bethel, several years ago, bachelor employees of the CAA and the Weather Bureau bought beer at \$10.50 a case to be sure of good drinking liquid. Being bachelors, they could restrict bathing to spring and fall periods.

Brackish and salty water causes most trouble, but the new demineralizers may

Friends Plan Farewell Gift for Chas. Evern



Friends of Charley Evern of the Plant Establishment Branch will be sorry to learn that he has submitted his resignation for reasons of ill health. In the early days of World War II, he accomplished nearly impossible tasks under difficult conditions for CAA. Charley said recently, "I might as well retire---things are getting too easy---there's nothing tough left to do". To enable the whole Region to express its appreciation and thanks for the good work he did during his years of service with the CAA, his many friends plan a gift. They will show him they miss him and have enjoyed working with him. Anyone interested in participating in the farewell gift may forward a contribution to AN-600. Presentation will be made just before Christmas. If anyone wishes to drop Charley a note or greeting his address is 414 41st Avenue, N.E. Puyallup, Washington.

solve the problem at most stations. The demineralizer at Moses Point can produce as much as 1,400 gallons of water a day and uses about as much current as a toaster. At some stations, CAA expert mechanics have produced "home made" machines to take out the heavy iron content which prevents the staining of laundry and plumbing fixtures, but does not make the water acceptable for drinking.

Few CAA operations in Alaska are so fraught with disgust or happiness as the matter of drilling wells. At King Salmon a well turned in wonderful water, soft and pleasing to all the women folks. At Kotzebue a well went down through 20 feet of thawed ground, then down to 90 feet through permafrost, and then produced brine, useless for anything except making salt. On the Chain we go down 600 feet and get fine water. At Bethel the new wells, 400 feet deep, produce excellent water.

Ice Water Free

At Arctic stations, the CAA runs its water pipes, cables and heating lines in utiliducts between buildings, and keeps these above freezing temperature. The water system at Kotzebue will consist

BUSINESS WINS

All business and no culture---that's the CAA sometimes.

Just when Don Gretzer was getting into the swing of a big part in the Community College Theatre Workshop's production of *Inherit the Wind*, big voices called him to Los Angeles for a conference on the very weekend, December 4, 5, 6, the play was scheduled. That left but seven CAA folks in the cast: Charles E. Planck and his wife Carolyn, Robert Feddersen, his trumpet and his daughter Janice, Don Keil and Doug, his six year old son, and Stanley Erickson.

These four are continuing the tradition of CAA participation in dramatic activities in Anchorage. In most of the cultural activities of the city, CAA workers have generally been prominent.

YOU CAN GIVE SOMEONE SIGHT WITH OLD EYEGLASSES OR LENSES

Do you consider your old eyeglasses a useless piece of salvage?

They're valuable. New Eyes for the Needy, of Short Hills, N. J., takes old glasses, processes them and gives them to needy persons of all ages. They're an efficient bunch. The gold in broken frames is sold for enough money to pay for the measuring, labeling and mailing of the glasses.

Norman Potosky, Regional Office, is handling collection for Alaska. If you have old glasses, old lenses, any old gold jewelry---or a nugget or a poke---he'll see that it reaches somebody who needs it.

The last word in an argument is what a wife has. Anything a husband says after that is the beginning of another argument.

of a pipe to a fresh water source 3,000 feet away, buried deep enough not to freeze, and leading into a reservoir kept above freezing by steam coils. At Unalakleet there is a snowbank that persists all summer, and Eskimo women paddle two miles up the river to reach it and bring back fresh water. At Kotzebue, the Noatak and Kobuk rivers produce a current along the seashore in front of the village, and in the spring, blocks of ice float by, delivered free to the eager Eskimos who take them home and fill oil drums to have a water supply. At Juneau, the bars prefer glacier ice gathered in any quantity desired from the beautiful Mendenhall glacier. Such ice lasts longer.

Rose is "head water boy" for the Region. He reports the CAA has drilled 61 wells, 51 of which have produced acceptable water, and he is placing his faith now in the electric demineralizers.

FAIRBANKS

After weeks of paperwork, Cy Kiehl finally cut enough red tape and is now on extended annual leave in Japan and Korea.

Fran and Frank Scott are also "Outside" on annual leave.

Paul Leschig recently turned in his Mukluks and went south to Anchorage Tower.

We welcome a new arrival, AOS Clayton Aune from Bismark, North Dakota. Clayton says he was already winterized, so this Far North Country wasn't such a shock to him.

Now that winter has come, all but the hardest are busily engaged in such strenuous sports as ping pong and basket weaving.

Jim Crompton recently made a suggestion which made the newspaper, when he suggested the State print "Land of Frozen Assets" on Alaskan license plates.

Dick Inman, Station Manager, was on TV the night of the 7th for a weekly CAP program conducted by Bob Arce.

Congratulations to Al Iverson, Bill Goode and Charles Stack---promotions to Senior Controller. A combined promotional and Halloween party was attended by 76 Center personnel, wives and girl friends.

Congratulations to Pappy Gould, our new Radio SEMT. EMT Anderson's promotion will leave another hole in the Radar Maintenance.

AOS Ray Caudle transferred to the Anchorage Center. Ray attended our party with his fiancée.

This past month's new arrivals include Don and Loyal Johnson (not related) from ANC and Floyd McKeever from UMM. Also welcome to Verna Smith, our new Administrative Clerk. Verna hails from Belpre, Ohio.

Center personnel taking Link Training totals 36, courtesy of the Air Force.

Now that it's nearly gone, we can say mean things about the chemise dress, which most of our fine women refused to put on. James Lanen, a British fashion historian, says it reminded him of a loose football in an envelope.

The Mukluk Telegraph

Editor.....Charles E. Planck
Typesetter.....June Weber
Photographs.....Hermann Kurrieger

MANAGERS MOVE



HEAY

BASSLER

Another of the musical chair movements in the Fifth Region results in four transfers and two vacancies.

John R. Bassler, station manager at Summit, is moving to Anchorage, where he will be deputy chief of the IATCS.

James R. Heay, station manager at Yakataga, will take over the station manager job at Summit.

William J. Johnson, station manager at King Salmon will become station manager at Juneau, where he has previously served.

Benjamin Zvalonek, station manager at Juneau, will become manager of the International Airport at Fairbanks.

The station manager jobs at Yakataga and King Salmon are being advertised.

POPULAR BOXER



The crates containing shipments to CAA stations from the Seattle warehouse are the products of genial W. H. Bisson, head boxer, and a favorite around the ALBRO offices.

Miss Mary Lou Aquino, Albro Addressograph Operator, became the bride of Mr. Robert E. Seay on November 21, 1958, in a wedding at the home of her parents in Port Orchard, Washington. After a wedding trip, the Seays will be at home in Bremerton, Washington.

GREGORY NEW HEAD OF CAA COMMISSARY



Thomas Gregory, late of the Alaska Native Service Hospital, is new Chief of the Commissary Branch in Anchorage.

Gregory, a bridegroom of a few months, has been a supply man for many years, and received much of his training in this field while in the Navy. He brings a lot of Alaska experience to the important job of feeding the CAA people in our widespread stations.

Floyd "Doc" Risdon is the meat cutter, once a Navy medic, hence the nickname. Risdon's outside interests run to civil defense and rescue.

One of Gregory's first actions was to write a special thank you note to Mrs. Clyde Wenger of Moses Point, for the excellence of her commissary orders. It seems she has consistently sent in 100% accurate grocery orders, an accomplishment so rare that she is now a favorite customer of the commissary.

Club May Study Air Charter Vacations

Promotion and management of vacations from Alaska in chartered planes will be proposed as an activity of the Civil Air Club for 1959.

Several possibilities will be laid before the new board of the club at its first meeting in January. Among these would be a trip to Europe over the Pole; to Japan; to Honolulu; to Seattle; and to various interesting tourist spots within Alaska. The reduction in flying expense through chartering is an important part of this planning.

Interchange vacations will be suggested to other CAA regional headquarters, the Washington Office and to the Aeronautical Training Center at Oklahoma City and the Technical Development Center at Indianapolis, by which CAA personnel will trade homes and cars for vacations in Alaska and other places where there is a concentration of CAA workers. This would be a cooperative "family" scheme to reduce high living costs at vacation spots.