

# MOOSE PASS MINER

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## COLORFUL STORY OF A HIKE OVER JOHNSON PASS

By Mrs. Ray Stafford

(Conclusion).

Shoe pacs were still damp inside, but other than that our clothes were in good order. With a hot breakfast to stimulate us we started out. Lynx creek was four miles down, where we would find people and Silver Tip where Bill Carden camped was three miles farther. It was 12 miles to the highway. We would have to make better time than the day before.

My heel hurt the day before. After the pacs had gotten wet they lost shape and they quickly began to rub the shin bones and the sore place on the heel. Before we had gone a mile I was limping. That couldn't go on. I was tense and strained from trying to humor the aching places. Pull off the pacs and go bare-footed.

The morning was warm and soft. The road was good. It was traveled over by a cat hauling to the mines. We walked steadily, watching the scenery in what was to us, new country. Mountain passes and streams rushing down them. Lakes and a beautiful, broad valley. In places the road was flooded. I picked my way and if the water was bad, slipped on the pacs as a pair of boots in order to keep my feet dry. The heavy pair of wool sox padded the sharp edges of rocks when we hit gravel.

Before noon we were at Lynx creek, an old location that was originally used as a roadhouse for the early travel over Johnson Pass, and later as a camp for placer mining. Ted Boyd and his aunt, both of whom we knew, took us in and we visited for an hour or more. We hadn't noticed, but almost with no sign of effort at all a hot dinner was set on the dining table and at noon we were sitting down to what was not, as had been our fare the day before, hotcakes with ashes, over an open fire. When a man shares his best grub, that has been back-packed over a steep trail, then you know you have again found real Alaskan hospitality. We even had pie served to us.

We couldn't stop very long. After dinner we started down the road. I was still in sock feet. If only I had carried along a pair of tennis shoes. The loveliness of Alaskan scenery followed us on each side. We reached and passed Silver Tip. Bill was gone, so we knew he would be at his highway camp and have the cabin warm when we got there.

Clouds had gathered and by mid-after-

(Continued next page).

## TWO SEWARD YOUTHS GET A GOAT

Martin Urie and Jerry Proxman, both of Seward, lads around 14 years old, sallied forth Tuesday morning from the Urie cabin at Snug Harbor, on the first goat hunt of their young lives. My, my, such a tale as they will have to tell their grandchildren, for they shot simultaneously at a goat on Porcupine Island and after that the goat was very dead. They had gone to Porcupine Island over Kenai lake in Martin's boat equipped with an outboard motor and they lost no time loading the goat in the boat and returning to the camp at Snug Harbor with their trophy. Then they skinned and carved the goat and enjoyed some elegant steaks.

Charles Hanson, whose homestead is on Kenai lake near Forest Acres, killed the first goat of the 1939 season in this section, early Sunday morning just back of his cabin.

The Duke of Sutherland delayed his trip to the westward with a longer stop than he had intended on the panhandle. He wired Alex Bolam to expect him and his party on or near the 26th, which is this Saturday.

Railway Mail Service has asked for bids to carry a star route between Seward and Moose Pass, performing delivery and collection service to and from the mail boxes en route. It is estimated by Earl March, chief clerk of the RMS that as many as 75 mail boxes will be served. Dates of service on a star route would depend upon arrival and departure of the mail boats.

Filings on placer locations on Lost creek have been made recently by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Luckie and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Williams.

The open season on goats and sheep is August 20 to November 30; on moose, September 1 to December 31; on bear, September 1 to June 20.

Ptarmigan and grouse may be hunted from September 1 to the last day of February, with limit of daily bag of 25.

George Lindsay was in Moose Pass for supplies for his Summit mine, Tuesday.

Legislation has been proposed by Delegate Dimond to authorize postmasters in Alaska to act as notaries public in administering oaths and affirmations. Under the bill the fees would be the same as prescribed for a notary public.