

"SQUAW MAN" CAN'T TALK TO CHILDREN



Two of the Motherless Children Whose Language Means Nothing to the Sorrowing Father.

Togiak Bay, Alaska, March 21.—Trader Bartlett of Togiak is a man who has expected little of life. And he got just about what he demanded.

Trader Bartlett married an Eskimo, like many men in the lonely north. Those who do not marry call these others "squaw men," though there is no opprobrium in the term.

His wife was a faithful, if undemonstrative mate. She cooked and stitched and kept the humble home clean.

It was what Trader Bartlett expected. That was why he had settled down there after years of roving the seven seas.

To complete the measure, nature gave him four children, in due time.

In his humble way Trader Bartlett

prospered. He sold bacon and beans, sugar, flour and tea to the eager prospectors adventuring into the Kuskokwim. And if ever the lust for quick, raw gold shook him, he mastered it and stayed with his store and family. He was content.

Like many another "squaw man," Bartlett never learned the language of his mate, nor she his. Their wants were so primitive, their association so simple, that a few words sufficed.

The children, as they grew up, learned only the mother's tongue. The father spanked them at times, played with them occasionally and gave them an affectionate bear-hug now and then. But to his babies he remained a strange, silent man to whom they could not prattle and pour out their little joys and griefs.