

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Harris, Margaret Keenan

Alaska Periscope, ca. 1948

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	Thoughts and ideas about the struggles & hardships most couples faced getting and staying married in Alaska.	
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	Makes 14,000 mile swing round the circle - Seattle, D.C., New York, Up the Canadian Rockies & back to Alaska, which was definitely on the way to becoming "home".	
	Meets Martin Harrais - a real Sourdough - her neighbor across the hall.	
	Tells the life story of Martin before she met him - Where he was from & how he came to Alaska.	
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	Viking comes to San Diego to car for Margaret & they marry - October 25, 1920.	
	Five months later, Martin moves back to Alaska in hopes of recouping his fortunes - Margaret stays in San Diego for health purposes.	
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The Harrais' move to near Cordova, where Martin will manage a little run-down sawmill on the coast.

Margaret takes a job to teach the Ellamar School.

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Margaret's pupils at Ellamar (8) are all Indian (Native) children.

Martin is appointed to a Federal Judgeship in Valdez.

Finally they purchase a 6 room home in Valdez.

Chapter 17	<u>" MY DAY "</u> (The year 1935)	187 - 194
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Margaret relieves Martin as District Judge while he searches for a new gold mine.

Chapter 18	<u>ALONE - SAYONARA</u> (The year 1936)	<u>Pages</u> 195 - 202
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Martin dies Christmas Eve, 1936 in Seward Hospital.

Margaret becomes the U. S. Commissioner (Martin's former job)

Chapter 19	<u>THE HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD</u> (The year 1939)	203 - 211
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Margaret's main room in her house is now the Commissioner's Office.

Margaret makes a trip to Juneau to Territorial Board of Education Meeting and marvels at the hospitality of the city.

Chapter 20	<u>REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR</u> (The year 1941)	212 - 222
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Alaska prepared for the war; controls the sea routes and direct air routes to Siberia, China, and Japan.

Chapter 21	<u>VERY TRULY YOURS</u> (The year 1942)	223-232
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Margaret's letter of criticism and recommendations is printed in a report done to improve present conditions of the Commissioner status.

