

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Sadlier, Joseph B.

Sadlier-Olsen Family Collection, ca. 1898-2001 (bulk 1898-1950)

PCA 289

230 Photographs, B&W
Manuscript materials
1 Video
1 Cassette tape (interview)

Processed: May 2000
By: Gladi Kulp

ACQUISITION: Joseph B. Sadlier donated the photographs to the Alaska State Library in February 1999 and January 2000, Accession Nos. 1999-2, 2000-02. In 2002 he donated a copy of the video, *Return of LST-325*, and congratulatory letters/message, Accession #2002-26. Earlier Accession Nos. 1991-058, 1992-3.

ACCESS: The photographs may be viewed, however, they may not be photocopied.

COPYRIGHT: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: Photographs are numbered and sleeved in Mylar. Manuscript material is housed with the collection. The video was added in 2002. A partial inventory is available.

Biographical Note

Edith and Byron Olsen, grandparents of Joe Sadlier, were both born in Minnesota. Edith's family goes back to the Revolutionary days. Byron's parents came from Norway and Sweden. Byron Olsen went to the Colorado School of Mines and received a degree in Civil Engineering. Byron died February 14, 1927 and Edith died in Ketchikan in 1948 or 1949.

Byron Olsen was a mine superintendent in the Sacramento, Calif. gold fields. He went to the Yukon (date unknown). It is said that he carried Crystal [Snow] Jenne over the Chilkoot Pass as she was only about two years old. The Olsens were close friends of the Snow and Jenne families.

Edith and Byron Olsen had five children: Wade, Clarence, Dorothy, Forrest and Winona (Betty). Forrest died when he was eleven. The family lived in a log cabin halfway between Skagway and Whitehorse (Yukon). Byron worked as a Civil Engineer on the railroad [White Pass and Yukon?].

They moved to Thane, near Juneau, around 1911. He was superintendent of building the Alaska Gastineau Mine. They lived in a tent the first winter until the first company house was built. After it was completed, they moved to Salmon Creek where Byron worked on the [Salmon Creek?] dam project, then Annex Creek.

When Byron's health started to fail they moved back to Juneau and bought the Zynda Hotel, later called the Juneau Hotel. Later, they sold the hotel and bought a large home above Main St., which they turned into a boarding house. Edith cooked and ran the boarding house. After Byron died Betty took care of Edith; they moved to Ketchikan about 1932.

Scope and Contents Note

The photographs follow the Olsen and Sadlier families and their lives in Alaska from 1898-1990, but primarily from 1898 to the 1950's. Manuscript materials include Joe Sadlier's field notes from his work in the Land Office survey party (Federal), Ryus Drugstore (Ketchikan) notes, correspondence, poetry by Joe Sadlier, and other memorabilia. A taped interview with Joe Sadlier conducted by Marie Darlin, January 7, 2000 and a video of the return of the LST-325 are also included.

Inventory (partial)

Photographs:

[Draft of an inventory is located in the front of the collection.]

Photos 176-190 are taken in the Juneau Fire Hall, 1950. Photos are described left to right unless otherwise noted.

- 1 Edith Olsen, stage outfit in Yukon. The Olsens, Jennes and Snows were friends and performed together.
- 5 *2nd from left, Edith Olsen, 3rd Ben Olsen, 4th Dorothy Olsen, 6th Byron Olsen, 7th Wade? Olsen.*
- 6 Construction of Alaska Gastineau Mine
- 7 Construction of Alaska Gastineau Mine
- 21 *On left* Byron Olsen at entrance to Alaska Gastineau Mine
- 22 Construction of Alaska Gastineau Mine
- 26 Construction of the Alaska Gastineau Mine
- 27 Satko standing in front of garden
- 28 *On Left* Byron Olsen
- 30 Byron Olson (Grandfather of Joe Sadlier)
- 31 Gold Creek & tram to Perseverance, or tram to Salmon Creek Dam
- 32 Thane
- 33 Alaska-Juneau Mine strike, mid-30's
- 34 Alaska-Juneau Mine strike, mid-30's
- 35 Alaska-Juneau Mine strike, mid-30's

- 36 Alaska-Juneau Mine strike, mid-30's
- 37 Clarence Olsen, Betty Olsen, Dorothy Olsen
- 39 Byron & Edith Olsen at Auke Lake
- 45 AJ Miners, 4th of July "Day Off", *Foreground* Byron Olsen
- 46 AJ Miners, 4th of July "Day Off"
- 55A Alaska-Gastineau Mill, " The Tipple"
- 55B Alaska-Gastineau, Shift change
- 56A Alaska-Gastineau Mill, " The Tipple"
- 56B Alaska-Gastineau Construction
- 57 Byron Olsen, Mine shaft, Alaska Gastineau Mine
- 64 Alaska Gastineau Mine
- 65 Clarence Olsen
- 66 Will Rogers and Wiley Post
- 67 *Far Right*, Will Rogers
- 69 Hauling Freight, Wade Olsen
- 77 Tanana?
- 91 2nd from the Right, Front row, Betty Olsen, Probably 3rd grade, Thane
- 92 4th from the Right, Front row, Betty Olsen, Thane
- 96 Kodiak
- 98 Joe Sadlier, US Customs Agent, Arnette Island, 1948
- 99 J.H. Sadlier and Dorothy Olsen-Sadlier, Pelican 1959

- 100 Curtis Kirchoffer, George Hanna (Brother of Marie Darlins)
- 101 George Hanna, Elwin Wright, Curt Kirchoffer, Unknown, Ivan Daroff
- 102 Mt. Juneau Trail "Break Time", Ivan Daroff, George Hanna, Curt Kirchoffer, Unknown
- 103 Curt, Kirchoffer, Unknown, Elwin Wright, Iran Daroff, Joe Sadlier
- 104 A & G Mine & Thane
- 105 St. Paul (Pribiloff), SS Roosevelt, Seal patrol
- 108 4th of July, Juneau ballpark, year?
- 109 Wade Olsen, Thane, *Planked Main St. to Suicide Falls*
- 110 Family Picnic
- 111 Family Picnic, 3rd from Left Betty Olsen, 5th J. H. Sadlier, 6th Dorothy Olsen, 8th Edith Olsen
- 112 Wade Olsen, Auke Lake
- 113 1944 Forest Service Trail Crew, Elwin Wright, Ivan Daroff, Curt Kirchoffer, George Hanna, Photo by Joe Sadlier
- 114 First Air Mail, Arrived in Ketchikan, AK, 1st *Left*, Emmett Ryus
- 115 St. Paul School, Prebloff Island
- 116 St. Paul School, Prebloff Island
- 117 St. Paul School
- 139 Wade Olsen, Thane
- 140 Survey Crew 1920, Cal, Joe H. Sadlier, Emmett Ryus,
- 141 Survey Crew 1920, *Far Right* Emmett Ryas
- 142 Edith Olsen

- 143 Survey Crew 1920 Joe N. Sadlier, Lal, Unknown, Emmett Ryus
- 144 Sledding on White Pass- Yukon R. R., Wade Olsen, Clarence Olsen, Dorothy Olsen, Unknown, Forrest
- 145 Clarence Olsen
- 146 Wade Olsen
- 147 The Ryus Family,(Helen, Ruth, Emmett), Ketchikan AK
- 151 Emmett Ryus and family, Ketchikan AK
- 152 Emmett Ryus and family, Ketchikan AK
- 153 Emmett Ryus and family, Ketchikan AK
- 154 Emmett Ryus and family, Ketchikan AK
- 155 Forrest Olsen
- 156 *Middle* Emmett Ryus
- 157 *Left* Wade Olsen
- 158 Joe H. Sadlier, Dorothy Olsen 1925
- 159 Joe H Sadlier, holding Tom Sadlier (his brother Jim's son).
- 160 Joe Sadlier summer 1941 Ketchikan
- 161 Joe Sadlier wth girlfriend
- 162 Byron Olsen
- 163 Dorothy & Joe H. Sadler Pelican 1959
- 164 4 Generations, Joe Sadlier, Dorothy Olsen-Sadlier, Edith Olsen, Marmie
- 165 *2nd from Left* Dorothy Olsen, Serving hot dogs, Hoonah AK, 4th of July C.A. 1919
- 166 Betty Olsen with ball player
- 167 Betty Olsen, Clarence Olsen, Dorothy Olsen

- 168 Betty Olsen
- 169 Dorothy Olsen
- 170 *Left*, Wade Olsen
- 171 *Right*, Dorothy Olsen
- 172 Clarence Olsen, Dorothy Olsen, Betty Olsen
- 173 Forrest Olsen

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- 176 Unknown, Phil Berthal, unknown, Erv Hagerup, unknown, Joe Sadlier, unknown, unknown, Lee Lucas, Bill Niederhauser, unknown, unknown, Skip McKinnon

[Above, there are 14 people in the photo but only 13 listed]

- 177 Fire Chief Minard Mills, distributing money for fire calls, 1950, Juneau Fire Hall: Unknown, John Morrison, Joe H. Sadlier, Lee Lucas, Fire Chief, Minard Mills
- 178 Dewey Baker distributing money for fire calls, 1950, Juneau Fire Hall. *Seated*: Bill Nederhouser, Dewey Baker, Stu Houston, Skip McKinnon
- 179 Unknown, Joe Sadlier, Unknowns, Stu Houston, Skip McKinnon
- 180 *Left to right*: Fire Chief, Minard Mills, Jimmy Orme, Unknown
- 181 John Morrison, Phil Berthal, Lee Lucas, Fire Chief, Minard Mills,
- 182 Joe Sadlier (plaid shirt), Skip McKinnon (tilted chair)
- 183 *Seated at desk*: John Morrison, Fire Chief Minard Mills
- 184 *Seated at left*: Joe Sadlier, *seated center*: Fire Chief Minard Mills
- 185 *Seated*: Fire Chief, Minard Mills, *standing*: John Morrison
- 186 Unknowns

- 187 *Seated at desk:* John Morrison, Fire Chief Minard Mills
- 188 *Left to right:* John Morrison, Unknown, Fire Chief Minard Mills, Lee Lucas
- 189 *Left to right:* John Morrison, Unknown, Fire Chief Minard Mills, Lee Lucas
- 190 Unknowns

Folder 5 contains photographs numbered 191-231; these include miscellaneous postcards, reprints, and photographs of people

Documents:

Folder 6:

K.K.K. Minstrel Show, Kennecott, Alaska, program and photograph
J.H. Sadlier diary, 1920, Survey Party, Land Office, U.S. Government
Correspondence, ephemera, poetry, article: *"The Year Was 1944 and They Were the Forest Service"*

Folder 7: Taped interview with Joe Sadlier by Marie Darlin, January 2000

Folder 8: [Accession #2002-26]

Video: *Return of LST-325*, by the History Channel
Correspondence: 2 letters and one message of congratulations for voyage of LST-325 from:
George W. Bush, President
Anthony J. Principi, Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Conversation with Joe Sadlier, Ketchikan, 2/10/99:

Photos:

Lady with frying pan is probably a café in Dawson.
Ladies on wagon - Dawson

Grandparents (maternal):

Byron and Edith Olsen
Good friends with the Jennes

Edith (with bowler hat) - theatrical production with the Jennes
Lived in Dawson, etc.

Forrest Olsen (uncle) died at age 11 of?? - looked for grave in Dawson? - did not
find

Mother - lived in Cassiar until she was 9

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4/16/02. gk