

**Alaska State Library
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

Behring, Carl (Carlson), Photographer

Carl (Carlson) Behring Photograph Album, ca. 1898-1908

PCA 401

1 album (63 photographs)

Prepared by: Gladi Kulp
August 1999
Inventory: L. Spear, 11/1999

ACQUISITION: The album was donated by Helen M. Nelson in 1999 (Acc. no. 99-24). Ms. Nelson received the album from a 93-year old friend; it belonged to her uncle.

ACCESS The photos may be viewed, however, the images may not be photocopied.

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PROCESSING The photos are numbered. Photo inventory was taken from descriptions on verso the photographs.

Biographical Note

Carl Behring was originally named Carl Carlson. He emigrated from Sweden to Alaska around the turn of the century. Carlson changed his name to Behring because, he said, there were too many others with the same name. Behring (Carlson) was a gold miner. No other information is known about this man except what can be drawn from viewing his photo album, i.e., he might have been a photographer and an artist. The verso of some photographs contains the chemical formula he used for the photograph.

Scope and Contents Note

The Carl (Carlson) Behring photograph collection is an album made by a miner who came to Alaska around the turn of the century. Most of the photos are in the Fairbanks area and many are along the Chena River and Circle. Possibly some photos are along the Yukon River.

Inventory

Photos:

- 1 [Street scene in Wrangell. Shows Chief Johnson's pole and house painting of a stylized killer whale. Also a view of Chief Kadashan's two-story residence with bay windows, built in 1887]
- 2 [Village street, probably in southeast Alaska; possibly Wrangell]
- 3 [Four men in uniform and dogs gathered near sign reading "NWM PO[LICE] STATI[ON]" .] Houses, trees in background]
- 4 When the whole family goes sleigh riding. This is W.D. Platinum paper
- 5 Ferrying during the jam. 4/4/'08 (213) [Fairbanks, along the river]
- 6 This shows the draw span of the bridge pulled up on the Fairbanks side taken from the ice 5/4/08 (216)
- 7 The last of the ice-run, May 4, '08 (222) [Fairbanks]
- 8 [Street scene along river with docked steamer; building with signs: Northern Commercial Co., McQuesten & Co.] (76)
- 9 [Street scene showing buildings and industrial area]
- 10 [Wooded area with waterfall] (49)

- 11 [Street scene with mountain rising abruptly in background] (50)
- 12 (1) Series 1,2,3, and 4 were intended to portray Fairbanks waterfront as well as the entire town. This is the upper end, water flowing from left to right. Town extends a trifle above this; the river makes a sharp bend and flows right behind the three story building at the left and then along the edge of timber. The ladder build on a couple of trees was for the purpose of photographing the town before the Hospital was erected from top of which these photos are taken; the largest hotel before the fire stood on the vacant lot adjoining "Vachons"
- 13 (2) No's 1 and 2 overlap as you can readily see. I possessed no tripod last summer and changed position considerably in taking the different numbers. There were nine refreshment places in this block where you can buy anything from buttermilk to absinthe. You can see the grandstand where I made No. 1. It was full of people listening to Major Clums 4th of July address. I made a sunstruck exposure of the next and before I could repeat the crowd had dispersed.
- 14 (3) No. 3. There is a gap of almost a quarter of an inch between 2 and 3. The double smokestacks are those of the N.C. power plant, heat and lighting; the bridge is the same as appears in the different photos it washes away every spring in the flood. The smokestack in the foreground is that of a sawmill, of which Fairbanks can boast four.
- 15 (4) No. 4. There is a slight gap between this and No. 3. Besides place of exposure was changed with the result of throwing and of connection the near-by roofs. Residences, unpretentious mansions in logs extends for a considerable distance below this, ending abruptly with a towering structure, the home of the "Lager." Likewise is the three story building in No. 1 a welling fountain of amber liquid known as "Bohemian." So there you are, the beginning as well as the end of Fairbanks is a brewery. What would you have?
- 16 [River scene] (58)
- 17 Velox. Special Rough D.W. I have five kinds of velox, solio, W.D. Platinum sepia, and artists gold tone. This is a poor print from a good negative. [Town scene along river with bridge, buildings and crowds of people; July 4th in Fairbanks] (147)
- 18 [Similar to 17] "Gillies" winning the pole vault - 4th of July 1907. The "sweetest girl that ever was" is sitting well to the front, but of course I can't mark her with a cross. That would spoil the picture.
- 19 [Similar to 18] The pole vault (49)
- 20 "Gillies," winner of the high jump, one of the numerous numbers of the athletic contests of the 4th of July celebration of 1907 [Fairbanks]
- 21 [River scene] (64)
- 22 [River scene with buildings along shore; probably Fairbanks area] (61)

- 23 [Buildings along river; 2 men near shoreline]
- 24 [Steamer Whitehorse docked along river; buildings, rowboats, men, dog along shore] (62)
- 25 [River scene] (63)
- 26 [Steamer traveling down river; industrial facility on shore] (59)
- 27 [Rock slide]
- 28 [City in foreground, river and mountains in background]
- 29 [River scene, mountains in background] (53)
- 30 [Steamer on river]
- 31 [City on banks of river, mountains in background] (68)
- 32 [City on banks of river] (69)
- 33 [City on banks of river] (70)
- 34 [Log structures beside river] (71?)
- 35 [River scene] (72)
- 36 [Men standing near buildings on banks of river] (73?)
- 37 [Settlement on banks of river, paddle-wheeler at dock, men and women standing around, large wheeled carts in field] (74)
- 38 [Snow scene; smoke coming from piles of wood?]
- 39 A Tanana Sunset (154)
- 40 [Scene of sunset over water or snow] (79)
- 41 [City on banks of river] (81)
- 42 [Slide or other activity on side of mountain; similar to 27]
- 43 [Large, ornate building with 3 towers on front] (83)
- 44 [River scene; a few buildings along the bank] (85)

- 45 [Fairbanks, along river; rowboats in water near shore; building signs: Senate, Eagle, Seattle, Tanana]
- 46 [Industrial area]
- 47 [Fairbanks along the Chena River] (87)
- 48 [Downtown street scene; Third Ave. Hotel sign on building] (90)
- 49 [Downtown street scene] (very faded)
- 50 [Small settlement in snowy field; piles of logs]
- 51 [Log buildings; people standing in street; sign on metal carrier in foreground: Cascade Steam Laundry]
- 52 [Men and boys in street; buildings in background; sign on building: Isaacs Bros.]
- 53 [Settlement, probably along river covered with ice and snow] (159)
- 54 [Fairbanks along the river, at night; lighted buildings, bridge in background] (151)
- 55 [Fairbanks at night, lighted buildings, closer view than 54] (152)
- 56 [Building mostly buried in snow]
- 57 Moonlight on the Chena River, Fairbanks. The Bldg. to the right is the Hospital (225)
- 58 [Buildings along street; snow-covered]
- 59 [House with large telegraph? tower out front, along river; snow-covered] (153)
- 60 [Log structure in field, mostly covered with snow]
- 61 [Train engine and car, smoke coming from stack, with mountain in background] (55)
- 62 Public School which is also the High School
- 63 [Settlement along river]