

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Best, Fred W.

Papers From the Klondike and Alaska, 1897-1917

MS 13-4

3 boxes
1.3 linear ft.

Processed By: Staff
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Introduction

The Fred W. Best papers in Alaska and the Klondike, 1897-1917, were donated to the Alaska Historical Library in 1974 by Dorothy M. Prescott of Belmont, Massachusetts. Mrs. Prescott, a niece of Fred Best, prepared typescripts for many of the journals, letters and others items in the collection.

In 1897 Fred Best had been working aboard ships (he had a mate's license), but wrote to his brother John H. (Jack) Best of his interest in going North. Both brothers went to the Klondike to seek their fortunes. Some of-the letters in this collection were also written by John Best until his departure in 1901.

Fred's letters and journals reflect his love of the North and his appreciation of the opportunity to improve one's lot and to be one's own boss. He returned to Massachusetts to visit on several occasions, but returned North to seek his stake in various ways: -through mining, freighting, fishing, trapping, cutting wood for steamers, operating a roadhouse, and working in stores and sawmills.

In letters to his parents in Stoneham, Massachusetts, Fred wrote in detail of his activities and of the people with whom he associated. His personal standards are also evident throughout his writings. In August 1899 he wrote,

Since I finished working at the brickyard, I had a good job offered me in a gambling house, but-would not take it as I don't want to get mixed-up in that business. A fellow I knew well in Forty Mile runs the place and offered me the job, but I can make a living some other way even if I have to work harder, so don't worry about my morale as I have been around the world plenty and am getting too old now to learn bad habits.

And in March 1901 he wrote this letter:

In your last letter you say that Jack blames you because he went out. Well, when he left Forty Mile you couldn't have held him back with a 5-inch hawser, for he was heartily sick of this country. If Jack keeps on, he'll be a chronic kicker, and no mistake.

On May 26, 1902, (Journal) Fred Best and Annie, a native woman, were married at a mission near Forty Mile, They have various problems, Later, Annie's fifteen year-old daughter, Lily, who had been living with missionaries down South came to live with them.

In June 1903 Fred Best and Frank Purdy purchased the Cassiar Road House, 16 miles above Forty Mile and 36 miles below Dawson, They put in gardens, and Annie and Frank did the cooking for Road House guests. The last letters written from Cassiar Road House are in 1906 (?). There are a number of photographs of Cassiar House, and of Fred, Annie, and Lily.

Through 1911 Annie and Fred were seldom together and Annie was often ill. They were divorced in May 1912. In June 1912 Annie was locked up in Dawson as insane, and then taken outside to an asylum. Fred wrote of his concern for Annie and Lily, who was on her own.

Fred and his partners--N.P. Nelson and Billy James--traveled up the White Pass River to Scolai Pass, hunting and living off the land. The journey took them from September to December of 1912.

In August of 1913 newspaper articles documented gold strikes from Shushanna and Fred Best is listed. Letters home in 1914 tell of life in the gold camp at Bonanza Creek near Shushanna and tell of Fred's claims.

During October 1914 Fred leaves the North to visit his folks in Massachusetts, returns to Shushanna until 1917, and then goes back East to stay and to attend the navigation school of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A 1935 newspaper article in the Stoneham Independent tells of Fred's experiences in the North; Captain Best later travels around the world and these experiences are reported also.

Inventory

MS 13

BOX 4a

- I. Best, Fred. Journals. 1900-1917. 12 volumes with typescript for the years 1900-1903 and 1911-1912.

Folder 1

Journal, 1900-1901. Fortymile and Jack Wade Creek (with typescript). Best engaged in odd jobs, mining for wages, freight and mail hauling from January to Summer months to the numerous mining camps between Dawson and Eagle City, Alaska. Occasionally, he worked for the Alaska Commercial Co. He set-net fished during Summer and staked first major claim at Miller Creek near Glacier Creek.

Journal, 1901-Jan. 27, 1903. Fortymile. (typescript ends Dec. 31, 1902).

Winter employment remains same with crew working claim at Glacier Creek.

Sept. 6. 1901 - Steamer "Islander" lost.

Jan. 15, 1902 - Crew building Valdez-Eagle Telegraph line stop at Fortymile on way to Dawson for supplies.

Jan. 22, 1902 - Police enforce game laws prohibiting sales of game meat.

Police prohibit work on Sunday.

May 26, 1902 - Marries Annie

Gold stampedes at Bedrock Creek and at Tanana.

Has poor fishing season and trouble with wife.

Journal, 1903. April 3 - July 28, 1903. Fortymile and Cassiar House.

Matrimonial difficulties dominate early Spring 1903. Annie arrested with others for disorderly conduct and infidelity. Jailed in Dawson.

Best and Frank Purdy purchase Cassiar House for \$500. Summer spent preparing road house for winter and fishing. Annie returns to help.

Journal, 1904-1906? (Feb. 7, 1904 - Feb. 6, 1906) Cassiar House

Best's winter activities center around maintaining road house, and providing for numerous stamperder's heading for the Tanana.

In March 1904, Best sleds alone to Valdez to catch steamer south; takes train to East coast and visits at Stoneham, Mass. and vicinity for several months. Returns to Seattle area in early summer and is taken ill. After recovery returns to Yukon via Skagway.

Fall spent preparing road house for winter season. Final pages include addresses of some people met on travels, as well as some bookkeeping. Chronological continuity deteriorates.

Folder 2

Journal, 1906 (Jan. 1, 1906 - Dec. 18, 1906. Jan, 1 - Feb. 6, 1906 entries also in 1904-1905 Journal).

Extremely cold January. Frank Purdy marries Susie, Feb. 4. Best takes fur buyer into Tanana County looking for Tetlin Indians with which to trade. In early Spring he works to fill five wood contracts for steamers. Cuts over 100 cords. Spring plowing, gardening, repair Winter's damage.

Journal interrupted from June 28 - Oct. 2. Two major hunting trips to acquire provisions for winter. Remainder of time, general chores. Frank and Susie Purdy have first child.

Folder 3

Journal, 1910, 1913-1914. (April 5, 1910 - July 2, 1910 Stoneham, Mass. to Dawson; Jan. 11, 1913 - May 24, 1914).

April 5 - May 4, 1910. Visiting family in Stoneham, Mass. Annie is hospitalized in Westminister, B.C. Visits Vancouver area while waiting for steamer North. Arrives Skagway May 29, 1910. Best notes obvious decrease in population. Travels via canoe to Dawson. Ice jams delay traffic at Lake Labarge for weeks; river travelers must report at Fort Selkirk. Arrives Dawson and begins work as longshoreman.

Iditarod Stampede in progress.

Journal, 1911. (March 25 - Sept. 27, 1911 with no entries between July 1st and August 1st, 1911 with typescript).

Best and wife Annie at Anacortes. Sister Lizzie arrives for school. Best anxious to return to Klondike. He travels to Whitehorse via Inside Passage. Skagway and Klondike communities are depressed, no work.

Best labors at docks as longshoreman making \$4.25 for one days labor.

Moves to Dawson.

"C.A. France" lost on Thirtymile River.

June 28-30, 1911- Dawson smallpox epidemic.

Three week freight trip up White River.

Best contemplates return outside.

Journal, 1912-1913 (May 21 - Dec. 31 and Jan.1 - Jan. 11, 1913? with typescript for 1912). Dawson, Y.T.

May 1912 leaves Seattle for Dawson. June 1912 Annie is locked up and insane so will be sent outside. Best takes Mr. Jennings, a Democrat running for political office to Eagle. References to Annie who is south at asylum and Lily at Fortymile. Makes trip up White River, hunting activity, and selling trap lines. Found body of unknown man and his effects on a trail he had blazed. Later writes Mounted Police about dead man. Trading with Indians.

Folder 4

Journal, 1914, 1916. Shushana, Alaska. No. 3 Bonanza Creek, May 25 - Oct. 9, 1914 in back of Journal

Making trip South for a visit to folks. Also poetic expressions, addresses and supplies at No. 7 noted in back of book. Jan. 1 - Feb. 1, 1916 - trail travel and general comment.

Journal, 1915. (Mar. 3 - Dec. 31)

Ready to leave Boston, Mass. after visit home. Arrived at McCarty on April 2, got an outfit and headed on trail with 18 dogs. Went over the glacier and then to Bonanza. Mining and general activity. Got a subpoena on Aug. 17 to go to Valdez for Jimmy Kingston's trial, Sept. 14. Trapping in the winter.

MS 13

BOX 4b

Folder 5

Journal, 1916. Chisana/Shushana area.

Trips over, trail, glacier, hauling wood, mining activity and hunting.. Nov. 15 tells how dogs helped save his life on the trail and narrow escape. At end of journal, writes a will dated Nov. 16 telling where his gold dust is located and disposal of possessions in case -of his death.

Journal, 1917. (Jan. 1 - Dec. 5)

Hunting and mining activity. Sept. 23, 1917 in Chitna and going back East to see folks. No entries Oct. 10 - Nov. 26. Goes to Boston on Nov. 27, and on Nov. 30 received letter from U.S.S. Board to start schooling in Navigation at M.I.T. Received letter from Bill Spaulding who got his mate's license renewed.

- II. Letters from Fred Best to his parents and family in Stoneham, Mass. 1897-1914. Also some letters to brother Jack (John H.) and later Jack--goes North and also writes letters home which are included here and one from William Hurd.

Folder 6Letters, 1897-1898. 11 letters (with typescripts)

2 letters from Fred in N.Y. to Jack (To John H) Best (working as mate-on cargo vessels and Klondike plans). Letter from John Best in Skagway to Mother (winter in Skagway with partner Wm. Hurd who is sawmill watchman). Letter from Wm. Hurd to Mother. Letter from Fred Best? (Arrives Seattle - will crew on barge to Skagway). Letter from John H. Best from Lake Tagish.(Fred is about to start for Skagway to sell horse, get mail, etc. They are going to build boat for Yukon River trip when ice breaks. Letter from Fred in Skagway (tells of camp at Lake Tagish and packing in 2½ tons of gear). Letter from Fred at Fortymile Creek, July 31, 1898. (Jack and Fred prospecting up Stewart River, tells about Dawson and Swift Water Bill. Also Ed Duncklee with them.) Letters from Fred and John at Fortymile in Oct. 1898, tells of freighting jobs on Fortymile River and work in town, cabin and wood supply, mail service, and problem with "grayback" insects. Undated letter tells of trapping on Stewart River with Tom Banks and incident with bear.

Folder 7Letters, 1899. Forty Mile, N.W.T. and Dawson, 9 letters with typescripts:

John H. (Jack) Best writes two letters from Forty Mile. (Tells of prospecting, mail received, moving outfit up river, and that Fred has job in Dawson.) Fred writes 4 letters from Dawson in April and July to Jack. (Tells Jack to stake claims and he will try to earn a grubstake and then if Jack should come to Dawson, he should stow some of their gear in A.C. warehouse and tells of jobs.) Fred writes from Dawson, August 27 to parents. (Jack came to Dawson from Forty Mile 6 weeks ago and has a job. Fred is working in brickyard for \$100/month and board, prospecting plans.)

Fred writes parents from Jack Wade Creek, November 30. (Jack is in Dawson after losing big raft with load before getting to Eagle; prospecting on this creek in partnership with Charles Royer and describes cabin.)

Folder 8Letters, 1900-1901. Jack Wade Creek and Forty Mile, 14 letters and typescripts.

Fred-writes five letters to Jack at Forty Mile about joining him at Jack-Wade Creek, and then offers to help with Jack's debts as Jack leaves for Nome and then Massachusetts. The letters to parents tell of his carrying mail between Dawson and Jack Wade -- 115 mile trip each way, taking 8 days. No luck with prospecting at Jack Wade Creek and talks of Nome. Writes about his dogs, and about freighting on Moose Creek. He hasn't sent out any nuggets: as not safe to mail. Also puts in a bid for the police wood contract and transported prisoner to Dawson for the police. In February 1901, works for the Alaska Commercial Company in Forty Mile. Also sells fish he caught and dried and in

April stakes a claim on Glacier Creek. Speaks well of Mr. White, the recorder in the area.

Folder 9

Letters, 1903-1904. Cassiar House. 4 letters with typescripts.

Fred Best and Frank Purdy from Danvers, Massachusetts, buy Cassiar Roadhouse (16 miles above Forty Mile and 36 miles below Dawson), Plan to operate roadhouse in winter, garden and fish in summer; also build a new house 60'x20' inside dimensions. Annie, Fred's native wife, is a good cook and so is Frank; writes of meals served and that roadhouse makes \$500 in November 1903. Tells of supplies purchased and his good credit with Northern Commercial Company. Also, Tom White is found dead and a man named Bradley is badly frozen. Talks of what it takes to survive in the North.

Folder 10

Letters, 1906. Cassiar House. 4 letters and transcripts.

File includes floor plan of Cassiar House and general map of geographic area.

Letters begin in May. Fred tells of ice breaking in the river, using the tunnel of an old copper mine as a place to store food, They have an ice house and use ice from the river.

Fred and partner Frank Purdy have a series of hunting cabins which they use when hunting game for food.

Cassiar House serves as the Best home, a way station for travelers' and a place to receive emergency medical and nursing care. Annie Best is a midwife, Susan Purdy has a baby boy while Fred and Frank are on a hunting trip.

In a letter written December 3, Fred tells his family briefly of Annie's background, that she has a 15-year-old daughter, Lily, who now lives with them.

Folder 11

Letters, 1911-1912. Forty Mile and Dawson and Bremerton Washington. 9 letters with typescripts and map.

In May 1911(?) Fred and Annie-help man with gunshot wounds at Forty Mile. Fred goes to Dawson in June, hauling freight, as not much work available, In April 1912 Fred goes to Bremerton, Washington, sees Annie, who is sick but would like to go North again, and Lily is all right.

The May 19, 1912, letter tells of Fred's divorce from Annie and leaves, May 23 for the Klondike. Tells of problems, writes of what travel is like on the Yukon River and Forty Mile River.

Fred writes from Skagway in May as ready to go to Whitehorse and down river in small boat,

Fred and partners N.P. Nelson and Billy James will leave Dawson in August on steamer Violette for upriver and later will line and polo to the headwaters of the White River to

prospect and hunt. They plan to go to Scolai Pass not far from the Copper River Railroad.

Folder 12

Letters, 1914. Shushana and Bonanza Creek No, 3. 12 letters with transcript.

Writes things are busy and using horse for hauling outfits. A number of women in title area, but no children. Talks of sluicing, good ground needed to pay wages of \$6/day with board, and mentions some good claims around. Quite a town of tents at Bonanza Creek. Tells price of food and in July 1914 says they have hired about 40 men to work their ground, costing about \$400 a day to operate.

In August letters mentions flood damage to some diggings, news of the war in Europe, made a few thousand dollars mining during summer, and plans to be home in October.

Fred is in Seattle, October 14, taking care of business, then will go to San Francisco before heading for Massachusetts,

Folder 13

Newspaper articles on Klondike-Alaska, activity and Letters by Fred Best, reproduced in the STONEHAM (Mass.) INDEPENDENT, 1897-1935. 11 items.

Includes 6 items from Stoneham INDEPENDENT, 3 items from Seattle POST-INTELLIGENCER on Shushanna gold strike, and 1 item on birth of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Purdy's baby at Cassiar House, published in Dawson newspaper.

Folder 14

1902. 1 item (5 pages) and typescript.

Account of a 1902 incident where two newcomers to the North lacked wilderness experience and one froze to death on the trail near Cassiar House.

Folder 15

Letter, 1900. Forty Mile - Dawson. 1 item (7 pages) and typescript.

A tough trip: Best tells of a dangerous canoe trip in the winter of 1900 where he accepted a contract to carry papers for N.C. Company from Forty Mile to Dawson and nearly lost his life in the ice-jammed Yukon River.

Folder 16

Miscellaneous records, 1899-1900. Forty Mile & Dawson. 2 items & typescript
Best records food prices at a little store at Forty Mile; record of temperature at Dawson, December 1899-1900.

Folder 17

Map of White River District, Y.T. (Canada, Geological Survey, 1913). 1 item on cloth.

Folder 18

Poems. 9 poems on 8 sheets (1 handwritten, others in typescript).

Poetry of Alaska and the North, believed to have been written by Fred Best, with titles as follows: Untitled ("High in the blue of the Arctic sky..."). "To My Girl," "To My Girl," "A Toast to Alaska," "Bucking the Tiger," "To My Old Lead Dog," "A Man from the North," "A Sourdough's Longing," Untitled ("It was winter in the Yukon....").

Folder 19

Lecture Notes, 1920s (?). 4 pages.

Fred Best outline notes for Alaska lecture in Stoneham, Massachusetts, during the 1920s.

III. PHOTOGRAPHS IN ALASKA AND THE YUKON

Folder 20 Fred and Annie Best, Lily (Annie's daughter), and some other people, 1902-1910(?), 28 photos.

Folder 21 Cassiar House - views of the roadhouse with people , dogteams, etc. outside. 20 photos.

Folder 22 Dog teams and dogs. 17 photos.

Folder 23 Pack horses and horse teams. 7 photos.

Folder 24 Ships, boats and rafts. 10 photos.

Fo1der 25 Glaciers and scenics. 7 photos.

Folder 26 Miscellaneous: 18 photos, including views of Dawson, cabin construction, Shushanna mining activity, several people and buildings.

Addendum to the Papers of Fred W. Best

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BOX 4c

Folder 27

Letter to Fred Best from Mrs. N.P. Nelson (original and photocopy): "Written by wife of N.P. Nelson, one-time partner w/ FWB in Alaska, 1918, to FWB in the U.S. Navy, World War I." (from note by Dorothy Prescott)
 "Adventures in the Yukon" by Fred W. Best (?)

Folders 28-29

Unpublished manuscript, 2 volumes:

- Vol. I. *The Alaska Story of Jack and Fred Best*
- Vol. II. *The Alaska Story of Fred Best*

Folder 30

"Photographs were found by Linda Moody when cleaning out her mother's things at 31 Pond St. [LaJolla, CA?]" (from note by Dorothy Prescott)

F 30-1 to 4	Forty Mile
F 30-5	Cassiar House
F 30-6 to 9	Shushanna
F 30-10 to 11	Caribou
F 30-12 to 17	Bonanza Creek Mine
F 30-18 to 22	Sled dogs
F 30-23 to 24	Camps
F 30-25 to 26	Interiors
F 30-27	Chisana
F 30-31	Ptarmigan
F 30-28	Paddle wheel boat
F 30-29,30,32,33	Scenics
F 30-34 to 35	Miscellaneous

Folder 31: Duplicate photos

Folder 32: Negatives

Ms 13-4a Fred W. Best**Name File from journal typescript through 1911**

Ainsley, Bob	1900-01	p. 17	miner on Gold Creek
Allen, Frank	1910, Ap. 8		clerk for NC Co at Dawson; met
again in Ny			
Anderson, Pete	1912, June 19	p. 13	
Austin, Frank	1901-02	p. 18	
	1904, Apr. 9	p. 10	at Seattle
Bayles, Victor	1904, June 27		at Portland
Berg, Jack Wade	1900	p. 3	Jack Wade Creek Mine owner
Baker	1901-02	p. 15	traveling up Yukon via steamer
Barnard, Ross	1900-01	p. 21	
Best, Annie	1901-02	p. 4, 7, 13	marries F.W.B., May 26, 1902
	1903	p. 1-4	jailed for infidelity
	1904, Feb. 12, 15, 17, 21, 22,		
	March 4, Oct.-Nov.		
	1910, Apr. 15, May 10-16, June 17		
	1911, June 17-30		
Best, Lilly	1912, June 14-30		
Bibber, Van	1903	p. 5	living in Best cabin at 40-Mile
Billy the Horse	1900	p. 4, #1	travels to 40-Mile with FWB
Black, Jack	1901-02	p. 5	
Black River Charlie	1901-02	p. 14	Native from Ft. Yukon
Blair	1900-01	p. 21	claims recorder, 40-Mile(?)
	1901-02	p. 8, 10, 11, 13, 20	
	1910, May 17, 19, 24		
	1911, April 11, 14, 15		
Blaisdell	1901-02	p. 18	
Bostian	1912, June 14-30	p. 13	Lilly Best's traveling companion
Brodie, Harry J.,	1902-02		
	Jan. 14, 1903		met at Brown House
	1910, May 24, June 17		
Boyde, Billy	1904, July 29, Nov. 16-25, Dec. 4, 17		at Cassiar House
	1905, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 6		
	1906, April 21, 23		
Browning	1906, May 3		to Dawson
Burke, John & Susie	1904, Feb. 7, 8		at Dawson
Campbell	1906, May 3		to Dawson
Canahan, Billy	1900-01	p. 1	
	1904, Apr. 9, 10		at Seattle
Carter, Frank	1901-02	p. 7	old timer from Nugget Creek, sick
and dying			
			best to take him to Dawson by sled;
died in Dawson			
Case, Dick	1900	p. 5	
Chappel, Billy	1900	p. 5	Dawson
Clawson, Charlie	1901-02	p. 8	at Gold Creek cabin
Coleman, Life	1904, March 26		met at Copper Center
Cowan, Ed	1900	p. 1	lost claim
Culbertson	1904, July 25		N.A.T. Co agent at 40-mile
Darby		p. 8, 10, 22	40-mile; hauls weight on trip with
Best			
Dawson, Dave	1911, June 13	p. 6	

Dawson, Mrs.	1900	p. 6	Dawson, Mrs., of Yukon Iron Co traveled with Best from J. Wade
Crk to Steele Creek			
Demeray, Emery	1906, Apr. 25, 28, June 3		40 mile
DeWolf, Percy	1911	p. 6, June 14	
Dixon, Capt.	1900	p. 12	Master of Steamer Louise
Donovan	1900-01	p. 8	Glacier Creek
Downing, Ben	1904, Apr. 9		at Seattle
Dugan, Jimmy	1910, June 22		in Dawson
Duncklee, Ed	1900	p. 3, 4	at Dawson
Dunlap, Jim	1900	p. 11	at Dawson
	1901-02	p. 10	arrested for debt, N.C.Co.
Eames, Will	1900	p. 5, 7	goes to Nome
Eddy, Billy	1904, July 29, Nov. 16-27, Dec. 17		
	1905, Jan. 26, Feb. 4, 5		at Cassiar House
	1906, March 28		
Edwards, Dave	1904, Oct. 28		at Cassiar House
Ely	1903	p. 3	mail carrier
Emerson, Billy	1900	p. 3	Fortymile
Fields, Mr.	1912, p. 12, June 3		
Fields, Charley	1901-02	p. 5	at Brown Creek
Fisher, Gordon & Walt	1904, Oct. 18, 24, Nov. 3	p. 5	at Cassiar House and Dawson
	1905, Jan. 21, Feb. 1		
Forsythe	1903	p. 2	N.C. Co. agent
Fosset, Ed	1904, Oct. 14		at Cassiar House bnd for Tanana
French	1900	p. 3	U.S. Dist. Attorney at Eagle
	1901-02	p. 9	Best meets him at 40-mile; later
takes him to Dawson			
Fyok, Billy	1911, June 24	p. 6	
Elden Justice	1911, Aug. 6	p. 7	
Gates, Bert	1901-02	p. 6	
Gales, Lern	1911, June 13	p. 6	
Grey	1905, Jan. 26, Feb. 2		police officer at 40-mile
	1906, Jan. 17		
Hall	1910, June 14		telegraph operator at Oglives (sic)
Hall, Charlie	1900, p. 5, 10, 11, 12		at 40-mile
	1904, June 27		at Portland
Hamilton, Doctor 1900-01		p. 18	Fortymile, Gold Creek cabin
	1901-02	p. 8	
	1904, March 14		
Hages, Jack	1901-02	p. 6	
Hawksley, Mr. & Mrs. Best & Annie	1904, July 2		of 40-mile, met at Victoria; married
Hill, Mrs. with Blair	1901-02	p. 10	travels to Dawson from 40-Mile
Hill, Jack	1900-01	p. 18	staked claim at Glacier with Best
	1904, Apr. 10		
Hill, Jim	1901-02	p. 15, 16	N.C. agent at Forty Mile
	1903	p. 2, 4	
	1910, May 17		
Hillory near Cassiar House	1906, Dec. 9, 15		Hillory and partner badly frozen
Hinchcliff, Ed Stonham MA	1900	p. 12	at Dawson, acquaintance from

Holdbrook, Mrs.	1901-02	p. 8	at Chicken Creek; died Jan. 15,
1902			
Hope	1910, May 7		NWMP at Dawson
Hurd, Win	1900	p. 5	at Dawson
Ireland	1901-02	p. 10	NWMP
Jennings	1912, June 29	p. 14	candidate for Alaska delegation to
Washington			
Keenan, Sgt. Police	1900	p. 13	
Kemmet	1900	p. 11	photographs fish camp
Kepp, Bill	1906, Feb. 11, Apr. 27		Purdy's old partner
Kemps	1904, July? 8		from Wade Creek; met again in
Seattle			
Kendall, Mrs.	1904, Oct. 26		at CH, bd down river
Kick		p. 7, 8, 17	works tailing with Fred Best,
Mining Op Eldorado			near
Dawson			
LaFarge, Bob	1900	p. 7, 9	Dawson; has done well on a lay on
Bonanza (Creek)			
Langford	1901-02	p. 2	
Lanless, Joe, Gus	1904, Dec. 16		at McGinnis Forks
Lemonts	1900	p. 11, 1240 Mile	
Laurence, Charlie	1901-02	p. 15	mate on Steamer "Leah"
			served on A.G. Ropes with Best in
1891 around horn			
Lawrence, Jck	1904, March 18		met at Tanana Crossing
Lawrence, Mr., & Mrs.	1903	p. 2	
	1904, Feb. 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, March 4, 7, 8, 9, 11		
Lee, Frank	1906, Feb. 22		Ketchumstuk
McCandless, Mr. & Mrs.	1901-02	p. 20	at Indian Creek
	1911, May 28	p. 5	
McCarthy, Neil	1900	p. 11	returns from Koyukuk stampede.
"He says it's no good."			
McCauly, Judge	1911, Apr. 11		Dawson
McCloud, Mrs.	1903	p. 2	
McCowan	1901-02	p. 15	attorney for N.C. Co.
McDonald, Black	1904, July 18		from Eagle
MacDonald	1904, April 1		met on board Steamer "Santa
Anna"			
			drummer for Nat. Cash. Register,
from Boston			
McGilbrey	1903	p. 1	
McKenney, Dud	1900	p. 12, 15, 19, 22	saloon owner, 40 Mile
	1901-02	p. 6	
	1903, Jan. 20, 24, 26		
	1903	p. 1	
	1912, June 19	p. 13	
McKenney, Emma	1901-02 and 1903		wife of Dud; see Dud McKenney
McKinney, Jim	1900	p. 12	travels from Steel to Dawson with
Best			
	1904, April 4		met again in Juneau
McWalker	1903	p. 2	
MacDonald, Mr. & Mrs.	1901-02	p. 13	met Best & Wife at Eagle
Malthe	1906, Oct. 28-29		scow runs aground; partner drowns
Mallory, Pat	1900	p. 4, 5	in Dawson, boxer
Manchester	1901-02	p. 15	traveling in Yukon via steamer

Manchester, Duke	1900-01	p. 19	
	1901-02	p. 1, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17	
Marion, Jules	1904, Oct. 11, June 4		at Cassiar House
	1906, March 11		
Marshbank, Jack	1901-02		Best takes him to Boundary
	1903, March 1-9		
Matlock, George	1901-02	p. 2	
Merriman, Fred	1900	p. 1, 3, 4, 5	Prospecting on Bench #8 at Jack
Wade Creek			
Miles, Joe	1904, Feb. 15		at 40-Mile
Miner, Fred	1901-02	p. 5	at Summit on way to 40 Mile
Mitchell, Dick	1911, May 7	p. 5	
Moncrief, Billy	1911, Aug. 15	p. 8	
Montgomery, Jim & family	1906, Oct. 30		drowned on Bezna River (Nabesna River?)
Moore, Capt.	1904, Oct. 22		at C.H. bnd for Coal Creek
Moran, Fred	1901-02	p. 10	at 40-Mile
Mosher	1900	p. 6	J. Wade Creek
	1904, March 10		
	1906, June 8, 9, 14, 16, 18, 25		
	1911, June 14, Sept. 26	p. 6, 11	
Myers, Charlie	1900	p. 14	
Moulton, Rose	1911, May 28	p. 5	Dawson
O'Brien, Tom	1900-01	p. 21	
Ocwoolf, Frank	1901-02	p. 5	
Overhiser, Charley	1904, March 18, 19, 23		at Tanana Crossing & Mentasta Pass
Patches, Sam	1900	p. 8	at Sam Patch Creek
Pearson	1901-02	p. 10	NWMP
Pennington	1900	p. 16	(NAT Co. agent, 40 Mile)
	1901-02	p. 7, 11, 12	
Pereck?	1900	p. 4	Jack Wade Creek; struck it!
Policy Bob	1900	p. 3	at Forty Mile bound for Nome
Pugh, John	1911, Apr. 19		(taxidermist, Skagway)
Purdy, Frank	1903	p. 4-7	Best's partner at Cassiar House
	1904, Sept. 6, Nov. 16		
	1905, Jan. 16, 26, 31, Feb. 4, 5		
	1906, Jan. 16, Feb. 4, May 2, 8, 19, 23, 27, 31		
	June 2, 4, 7, 28, Oct. 2-18, 28, Nov. 2-		
	1911, June 23	p. 13, 14	
Purdy, Susie	Spring 1903		
	1904-05, Feb. 6, 8, March 1		
	1906, Nov. 23		
Quigley, Joe	1901-02	p. 10	will prospect Copper River country
Roberts, Mrs.	1901-02	p. 10	at Knik
Robinson, Jack	1904, July 18, 20		of Eagle
Shiller, Mr. & Mrs.	1901-02	p. 5, 6, 12, 13	
	1901-02, Jan. 5, 14,		
	1903	p. 1	
	1904, July 23		
Shorty	1904, March 16		Shorty's mail cabin in vicinity of
Kechumstuk			
Shultz, Mrs.	1900-01	p. 21	at Boundary
	1901-02	p. 6	
Shuman	1904, June 28		former Dawson jeweler

Singleton	1900	p. 11	at Dawson, goes to Eagle to marry
Sloss	1900-01	p. 22	A.C. manager
Smith	1904, Feb. 14		bound for Tanana
Smith, Phil	1900	p. 4	Dawson boxer
Stanley, Lou	1911 June 2, 9, Aug. 7	p. 5,	
Stanly, Dean	1904, Oct. 26		at C.H. bound downriver
Steel, Tom	1900	p. 15, 17	at locality of Steel Creek
Sterns, Frank	1900	p. 2	Cassiar, bound for hospital
Stewart	1906, May 3		to Dawson
Stewart, Mrs.	1904, July 23		from 40-Mile, met again in Seattle
	1901-02		
	Jan. 11, 12, 1903		very sick ,dies
Stines, Dick	1900	p. 2, 4	Halfway House (betw Cassiar &
40-Mile?)			
	1901-02	p. 17	
Stone, Billy	1910, May 19		in Vancouver
Sommers, Hank	1904, April 9		at Seattle
Swanson, Dave	1900	p. 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 21	40-Mile; will fish during
summer with Best			
	1901-02	p. 1, 5, 6, 19	
	1903, Jan. 14		
	1904, Oct. 29, Nov. 30		
	1911, May 31	p. 5	
Tibbs, Billy	1904, March 16		Ketchumstock (sic?)
Twans, Joe	1900	p. 2	Jack Wade Creek
Tweeden, Ole	1904, March 15		at Chicken
	1911	p. 7, Aug. 1, 12	
Vanderpool	1901-02	p. 3	
Veneau, Eli	1910, Jan.(?) 1, June 19		in Dawson
Walker, Mrs.	1901-02	p. 13	attends Best wedding
	1906, May 27		
Welch, Cliff	1900	p. 2	at Forks (junction of 40-Mile R &
Jack Wade Creek?)			
	1910, May 19		in Vancouver
Wellman, Scott	1901-02	p. 8	from the Boundary
Whalley	1904, Feb. 14; Bound for Tanana		bnd for Tanana
White	1900-01	p. 18, 19, 22	40 Mile claims recorder
Williams, Jack A.	1906, Feb. 8		at Cassiar House
	1911, April 25, 27		died in Whitehorse
Williams, George & wife	1900	p., 1, 3-6, 8	with wife on Bench #8 at Jack
Wade Creek			
			Kink cutoff (40-Mile SW Eagle on
N. Fork 40-Mile R)			
			Mrs. Williams delivers son at
Dawson			
	1904, Feb. 28		
	1911, Sept. 28, 29	p. 11	
Wilson's gang	1904-05, Feb. 14		work crew
Winters	1900-01	p. 20	miner Miller Creek area
	1901-02	p. 5, 10	
Wetzler, Charlie	1905, Jan. 21		at Cassiar House
	1906, Jan. 21		
Wood, Ed	1903	p. 2, 21	
	1904, Nov. 5		
	1905, Feb. 1		

Wood, Mrs.	1900-01	p. 22	
Young, Andy	1900	p. 1	Dawson. Burned in fire.