

**Testimonies—**

# **Barrowites Host House Committee**

BARROW, (Special)—In the meeting yesterday, Mr. Chairman called a person from the audience by this name—Simon Paneak.

Simon who is around 69 years of age. Simon began to speak in English to the U.S. Representative. In his speech he said that Eskimos has settled several hundred years before Russians sold Alaska.

An ever since from that time the land their property. Whenever their games climbs up to the mountains, yet the Eskimos follows them, and when the spring comes, these hunters turns around and travels down where they have begun.

Simon said it's not an easy life—he knows it himself he said has travels everywhere with his parents.

“Men, we don't raise crops like you people do and whenever we do find games, we store them for the winter use. We Eskimos don't hunt just for sports. But lots of white people does kills them and sometimes leave the carcass untouched. Land belongs to the Eskimos who have lived all their lives.”

Too bad, Simon said, that time is short this evening, after all when he could speak more to them. He said he has told some of the Eskimo leaders he could have someone to interpret for him, but without interpreter it's kind of hard for him to speak right though in English but he do the best he could.

I'm adding this when I first saw Simon Paneak. Simon was a bright young man, he just married two weeks before we got there in 1920. The time when Dr. Ahmaogak, Isabel, and myself took a census clear up to the Demarkation Point.

Simon once said to us that day that he and the other young man will go inland to follow the herd, herd that travels up toward mountains. Simon never did make any promises when he will be back. Simon left next day.

That was the only time we saw him, never did see him afterward until two years later. Simon was a hunter and he is right that Eskimos do follows game.

The other leaders makes it clear that they have lawyers with them, and they could even sue

them, whatever that was suppose to come to the Eskimos.

Very strongly, Eben Hopson, Executive Director, makes it so clear that anyone could hear people's breathing.

After he has his testimonies out to the audience, Eben said that after the meeting adjourn, Pete Sovaliks group going to place a few minutes program to the new comers.

## **VERY GOOD YEAR**

I suppose this one of the good year this winter. People here and there been getting lots of caribous and fishes. They even said that the tundra was swamp with foxes.

The other day, a man caught a real nice wolverine. Few wolverines were caught by the hunters, I do not know how many.

And also few days ago, womens who were fishing up a old coal mine, when they work up, they saw a strange foot prints outside their lodge.

It's not one of their mens, so big they marveled at the foot prints.

## **PASSED AWAY**

One of our best friend, friend who I'll never forget him died last night. His name is Mr. Abe Simmonds Powyurok. Abe and I have hunt lots together. sometimes in peril and dangerous ways.

One time Abe and I fell through the young ice, both dragging two seals each. Temperature that evening could be around 45 degrees below zero. Somehow both of us came home safely, leaving our seals and kayak behind.

One day Abe said to me, “Guy, I'm a little older than you.”

He said he's going to ask me a question, “Guy, who—which one of us will passed away first, will it be me or you?”

I said to him, “Why asking Abe?”

He said, “Because—just because.”

Never said afterward.

Everyone knows how hard it is when someone who is very close to you passed away. Now Abe passed away, and someday, we will too.

Good luck, readers, and God bless you all.