

# Gambell Eskimos enjoy the winter season

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Cold as it may be, but we always find enjoyment, here. Pure white covering that comes

on every year should be very nice as it stays for some months of the year and goes away. The fresh one is put on year after year. The snow, our land is so

white and beautiful, that's why we like to live here, cold as it may be. Blowing of wind does lot of shaping, around homes and everywhere, with the pure

white snow. When snow is used as a shielder, the wind doesn't go through it, so it can be a shielder from the wind. That's why sometimes Eskimos make snow

huts out on the ice when they are lost. We also like to make animal skins for what to put on, they are very comfortable for here.

Men still go out on hunts at the ice around. The ice comes in fall time and goes away in spring. When the ice comes in, sometimes it makes deep open places there would be water here and there sometimes large and other times only small. Sometimes it piles up at the shore on other places too, forming mounds of ice here and there. So the men like to go and watch for seals or even walruses at the open water places near by in winter. Many times they come home with a seal or more at one time. It is there some men often find songs like poets the Eskimo songs came into their minds as they watch for sea animals.

It is the wonder of wonders when seals happily play and splash around in 20 to 50 below zero water. But too bad we don't befriend them, but every time we see them, it means some good and nourishing food or clothing in mind for us, so they are killed as soon as one is seen. And get them is not an easy task. When one is given only by providence it is a great blessing. When a man kills a seal, he will hurry around and throw the hook at it to pull it up. Or there are three hooks in one clublike wooden equipment for pulling seals. The seals are very heavy even the little three foot ones must weigh about 150 lbs. When it is taken home it is good supply of meat and a skin is good garment for here, very durable for ice and snow regions.