

10-year-old Boy Orders Jacket, Cap, Gloves, Socks For One Weasel Skin; Gets Small Bag of Candy

By KIAS PETER, SR.
Arctic Village, Alaska

I remember. When I was ten years old. We use to left up here in Arctic Village, year after year. With out go anywhere. My father who is James Gilbert use to go to Fort Yukon to get some things we need every once a year.

This is what he usually get. For next six month all this groceries is by 50 lbs. flour, sugar, rice oats, matches and ammo., tent and stove also. The money he use to get this groceries is some fur like wolf, fox, mink, marton and masrat.

I remember I use to give him one or two weasel skin. Which is \$1.00 ea. and tell him get me jacket, cap, gloves, socks and bag of candy. That's little to big of order for one dollar. But I order what I need anyway.

He make that trip with dog

team use eight dogs but still take him sixteen days. This is about 160 miles across country.

While he was gone my mother and I. We haul wood with are neck to keep are log cabin warm in 60 below weather.

Sometime I go out hunting for snow birds or rabbit my mother use to give me five 22 shells that got to be sure shot to get three bird and 2 rabbit. Before my mother will be happy.

When my father come home all I get is one little bag of candy for that one weasel skin I sent out. Rest of the order is gone because rest of the order is to big for \$1.00. That was early days.

Today when we went go to Fort Yukon, all we have to do is get are ticket and get in flight. Take 55 minute to get in Fort Yukon. We got are own store lots of groceries and clothing. Which we call. Midnight Son

Native Store.

Almost everything is doing it by machine like a Sno-go, washing machine, chain saws, cat, outboard motor, things like that.

Since last four year we been working on new village, by the Community Action to build this new house there is some family move in to there new house already.

And we still got lots work to do on it yet. We thank God for all this work done in are village.

Elias James, Village Chief. Peter Tritt store manager. Nena Russell, postmaster. Mrs. Josephine Peter, BIA school hot lunch and other women. Trimble Gilbert, teacher aid. Lilly Tritt, welfare agent.

Kias T. Peter, Sr., constriction worker there in Fairbanks, since 1964 and was been work on riverboat in Nenana in 1960, Wien Radio operator here in Arctic Village for two years in 1958 I been in Cat Skinner for Western Geophy. Co. up in North Slope in 1963.

I have six kids and left in Arctic Village.

For many years I will say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all my friend down through Yukon and around Fairbanks area.

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First One— Nikolai Store Opens

The opening of Mary's Trading Post in Nikolai, Alaska, on October 12, was an important event, as the store is the first one in the village.

Mary's Trading Post is owned and operated by Sammy and Mary John. The store is in their home and carries groceries and miscellaneous items.

The Johns have a family of four. Mrs. John is a native of Nikolai and Sammy is from Crooked Creek.

The grand opening was a big success with refreshments, balloons, candy and several door prizes.

Residents of Nikolai are enthusiastic about their own store and hope it will mark the beginning of further economic progress for their village located at the top of the Kuskokwim River above McGrath.

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