

Can't just sit doing nothing—

108-Year-Old Grandma Nataruck Breaks Hip Bone Shovelling Snow

Minnie Tucker, "Alaska's oldest living grandmother" and beloved Grandma Nataruck to many Alaskans, is doing just fine at Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage.

The tiny Eskimo lady with the sweet face is thought to be at least 108 years old and things she remembers from days of her childhood and as a young woman would seem to substantiate that.

She recalls, for example, hearing people say that the Russians planned to sell Alaska to the United States.

Minnie was brought to the Center because her hip kept hurting her and she had trouble getting around to do her work after falling recently outside her home in Fairbanks.

Medical examination showed she had good reason to feel pain—her hip was broken. Now the indomitable old lady has undergone surgery to have the bones "pinned" together.

This in itself is rather remarkable for seldom is general anesthesia given to elderly patients. The U. S. Public Health Service anesthetist is quite sure he has never before administered anesthesia to a centenarian!

The hip-breaking fall occurred when Minnie was shovelling snow and dirt around her little home to keep the winter out, she says. "I should have waited for those boys," Minnie says ruefully, "but I couldn't just sit around doing nothing could I?"

Thursday (December 14) Minnie said she "felt lighter" and demonstrated



Grandma Nataruck

—PHS Alaska Native Health Service Photo

this sense of well-being by a motion suggesting a lift off for flying.

Except for her hip, which doesn't pain so much now, she says she "has no sickness on my body. I have only old age feel."

Meanwhile get-well cards are pouring in to Minnie, not only from Alaskans but from church associates in Atlanta, Georgia. She never tires of hearing the verses and loving inscriptions from these many

friends.

And she can recount many a story of how it was in the old days at Rocky Point on Golovin Bay where she was born and other communities where she lived after marrying her miner husband Arthur.

He never struck it rich, says Minnie, but she relates with quiet pride "I'm glad we never owed anybody; we were never short of food." Arthur died 25 years ago.

Their surviving children and families live in the Fairbanks area now.

Nurses who help this littlest grandmother into her wheelchair for her daily "ride" have to caution Minnie to be less energetic. She gives them a sweet and apologetic smile, and then forgets immediately.

After all, it's hard to just sit around doing nothing, isn't it? Especially if you've been active for more than a hundred years.

Navajo Indian Rug Exhibition In Progress at U of A Museum

A new exhibit of Navajo Indian rugs has gone on display in the University of Alaska museum and will be on exhibit until January 5, according to Museum Director L. J. Rowinski.

One of the hand-woven rugs is on loan from Lynn Castle, a resident of Fairbanks, while others are from the University Museum collection.

Identification of design types and meanings of woven patterns in the rugs was made by Kate Peck Kent, cultural anthropologist at the University of Denver.

Color slides of the rug patterns had been sent by the museum to Mrs. Kent, a noted authority on Southwest Indian culture.

Rowinski also announced that a series of historical maps, sponsored by the Alaska Centennial Commission, is now available at the museum sales desk. Other maps, booklets and cards on Alaska's cultural and natural history also are available.

The museum will be closed Christmas Day. It will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. during the rest of the holiday season, including New Year's Day.

When you are in the beautiful Kenai Country, stop in at

Rainbow Bar

Kenai, Alaska

JOHN B. COGHILL

UNION OIL DISTRIBUTOR

for Tanana and Yukon River Villages also in the Nenana, Clear, Healy areas

P.O. BOX 489, NENANA, ALASKA



WIEN AIR ALASKA Announces

Christmas Shoppers' Special Round Trip Excursion Fares*

Shop in Fairbanks and save money on your round trip travel, and stay at the beautiful Golden Nugget Motel. The Golden Nugget is offering 30% off regular winter rates to Wien customers who take advantage of this Holiday Excursion Special.

ROUND TRIP EXCURSION FARES

FROM	To Fairbanks, Alaska and Return
Barrow, Alaska.....	\$73.25
Barter Island, Alaska.....	66.75
Bettles, Alaska.....	40.00
Dahl Creek, Alaska.....	46.75
Fort Yukon, Alaska.....	25.25
Galena, Alaska.....	46.75
Hughes, Alaska.....	40.00
Kotzebue, Alaska.....	66.75
Nome, Alaska.....	66.75
Tanana, Alaska.....	22.75

*Travel must be completed by midnight (Fairbanks Time) December 24.



WIEN AIR ALASKA

Alaska Business Directory

CO-OP Drug & Photo

"ALASKA'S LARGEST"
Prompt Mail Order
SERVICE & PHOTOFINISHING
•Prescriptions
•Photo Supplies
•Cosmetics
•Sundry Items
P.O. Box 1390 Fairbanks

LEWIS LODGE

Bethel, Alaska
Hotel - Restaurant - Taxi

BILL'S DORMITORY

524 3rd Ave., Fairbanks
452-3894 Men Only -
BUNKS: \$2.00 per night
Write Box 165 Fairbanks

Alaska National Bank of Fairbanks

Complete Banking Service
Branches at University
Nenana - Airport Road
Eielson - Delta - Tok
Main Office—Northward Bldg.

FAIRBANKS OFFICE SUPPLY

Office and School Supplies and Equipment
Box 131, Fairbanks, Alaska

DONALSON COMPANY

PO Box 845
Anchorage, Alaska
Phone 279-3025

Fairbanks Lumber Supply

"Where One Call Supplies It All"
Box 629 - 272 Illinois St.
Garden Isle, Fairbanks
452-2183

Fairbanks Hearing Center

MAICO - ZENITH
FRANCHISED DEALER
Sales - Service - Batteries
NORTHWARD DRUG
Northward Bldg.—Ph. 452-2103

FAIRBANKS AIR SERVICE

Wheels - Skis - Floats
Charter . . . New Cessna to any point in the Interior.
2nd Hanger, Phillips Field
Box 1027 - Ph. 479-2244
Fairbanks, Alaska

SIGN UP FOR U.S. SAVINGS BONDS FREEDOM SHARES

For prompt, expert repair send your 16mm projector to

Pictures, Inc.

811 5th Ave., Anchorage
Alaska's authorized Bell & Howell factory service station



Fairbanks' Oldest Cab Service

CHECKER CAB

456-6611

RADIO DISPATCHED 434 Second Ave.



"Listen, you guys. They say that if you advertise in this one-inch space, it's real cheap!"