

Famous Arctic Sailor—

Captain Pedersen Mourned By Oldtime Eskimo Friend

By THOMAS P. BROWER
Barrow, Alaska

Re: Captain C.T. Pedersen. Many Arctic Eskimos will recall this Captain, as he would always be the first Captain to bring in his ship to the Arctic coast villages with the much needed supplies.

Capt. Pedersen's son called by telephone and told me that his father died not long ago. I was shocked to hear this. I asked my sympathies be passed on to his dear wife.

I didn't ask how, but as I read the writeup in the Seattle Fur Exchange report which reads:

"Captain C.T. Pedersen, who will be remembered by the old-time trading fraternity in Alaska and Northern Canada, and who was the last trader of the old-timers into the Arctic, was found dead a few days ago.

"He will be missed by all of those who knew him so well as a very kindly, wonderful man.

"Police held two escaped convicts today in the bludgeon slaying of a retired sailing captain whose days in the Arctic regions included rescuing a famed explorer and surviving a ship wreck in the Alaska wilderness.

"Police said Capt. Christian Pedersen, 92, died Friday from head wounds inflicted with a blunt instrument. His wife, 74, was in satisfactory condition after a beating.

"The two men, Clarence Galindo, 18, and Joe Jojola, 25, were arrested at the Pedersen home in the San Francisco Peninsula Community. Both had escaped the San Francisco County jail in nearby San Bruno.

"Pedersen retired in 1937 after more than 41 years of Arctic fur trading.

"He also was noted for having rescued explorer Bob Bartlett who had been on expedition with Adm. Robert Peary, discoverer of the North Pole.

"Shortly after the turn of the century Pedersen's ship, the Elvira was wrecked, and he survived a 30-day trek across the Alaska wilderness."

Again I wondered.

In the fall of 1919, Teddy Pedersen and I were in the last

commercial whale hunt with Capt. Pedersen on the three masted boat, "Herman."

We took 18 whales near the edge of the icepack close to Herald and Wrangell Islands. Later, we dropped our anchor behind the bar at Port Clarence in

front of Teller.

We boiled oil for nine days and nights. Experiences like these, one will never forget.

I am sure hundreds of Eskimos of the Arctic will be saddened to hear this, yet I must pass it on to his many, many friends.

Native Allotments OK On Unoccupied Lands

Land owned by the federal government and not claimed or used by other persons may be claimed as a Native Land Allotment by any Alaskan native who is at least 21 years old or the head of a family.

This land must have been used or occupied by the native applicant or land which will be used and occupied. The allotment may cover from one to four tracts of land for a total of as much as 160 acres.

Native allotments, after they have been granted, cannot be taxed. Neither can it be sold, given away, or used as security for a loan without the consent of the Area Director of the Bureau

of Indian Affairs.

Although each native may have claim to land used and occupied, he does not own it until the allotment is applied for, occupied for five years, surveyed by the Bureau of Land Management, and a Certificate of Allotment issued.

Even then, if valuable minerals are discovered on the land, the federal government reserves the right to ownership of these minerals.

Before filing for a Native Allotment, the land must be measured and posted on each of the corners. Applicants must know the location of these markers and be able to mark them on a map.

Allotments may total 160 acres, which can be received in one to four parcels. Each parcel must be square or rectangular, with the sides running true North, South, East and West.

The length of the sides of these parcels may be measured by pacing. With each step measuring one yard, the number of steps can be counted from corner to corner. The corners can then be posted.

A tree, a post, or a pile of rocks can be used to post a corner. The post should be identified with a marker. Markers can be obtained from your nearest BIA Realty Office.

To aid BLM surveyors in finding the allotment, orange paint should be used to mark each post. This should not be painted on the marker itself.

Applications and further information can be obtained from either the village councils or the BIA Realty Office in Fairbanks.

NORTH Commission Meets July 9

JUNEAU—Governor Keith H. Miller announced this week that a meeting of the NORTH Commission has been scheduled for July 9 and 10 at the Captain Cook Hotel in Anchorage.

The two-day meeting, which the Governor will attend, will be for the purpose of considering the transportation corridor from the interior of Alaska north to the Arctic Slope.

The NORTH Commission, charged with overseeing the orderly development of the interior of the State, will evaluate the feasibility of establishing a common corridor to the Slope for all modes of surface transportation including rail, road and pipeline.



THE MEN of the Alaska Mount McKinley Company, Co. 415 at the Naval Training Center, San Diego, Calif., are put into marching formation by their Company Commander, Chief Boats-

wain's Mate Frank A. Tucker. The Alaskans have just received fresh linen and blankets.

—Photo by JOI HAL G. WILLIAMS

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