



**Gold Found!**—Here's what an Alaskan fishwheel (above) looks like. Gold was reportedly discovered in the axle of wheel similar to this on Discovery Island, near Fairbanks, Alaska. Net revolves with the current and scoops up fish which fall in boxes at side. The prospectors' tent village which sprung up on the Yukon river is aptly named Fishwheel. (AP Wire-photo)



**Alaskan Prospectors' Camp**—Natives help prospectors set up camp on Discovery Island, near Fairbanks, Alaska, where gold was recently reported discovered in a fishwheel. (Left to right) Solomon Flitt, Joe Peters, Earl Hirst and Sam Gambling, all of Fairbanks. Hirst and Gambling, with gold pan, are veteran Alaskan prospectors. At right is a Yukon stove, standard camp equipment. (AP Wirephoto)

**LIFE ON RIM OF THE ARCTIC**

**Two Women, Coffee Shop Come to Gold-Happy Camp**

By JACK DAUM  
Fairbanks News-Miner Staff Writer  
(Written for the Associated Press)

Fishwheel, Alaska, Oct. 27 (AP)—Two women and a coffee shop have come to Alaska's latest gold-happy community. This booming tent town, extending for nine miles along both sides of the cold and sluggish Yukon river, blinked today at the arrival of the women.

One of them is Evelyn Grinnell, the wife of a Fort Yukon trapper and the second of her sex to arrive. She immediately set up a coffee shop in her tent—equipped with only a Yukon stove, a coffeepot, a box of cups, doughnuts and some sandwiches. Evelyn is doing a thriving business.

Coffee—25 cents a cup. Coffee with doughnuts or sandwiches—50 cents. First woman to arrive was the wife of a Fort Yukon native who brought her along with him to share the frigid life of this gold mining camp on the rim of the arctic.

They walked over the tundra for two days to get here. The woman, a rather attractive Indian with jet black hair, smiled shyly as she walked by with a large pack on her back. Her husband, thin and impassive, twisted his wrinkled features into a large grin when somebody yelled "Hi, Joe."

He carried a rifle, an incongruous instrument where man's most precious tool is a pick or shovel. The first showing of gold in this area was made 12 days ago by Clifton Carroll, who spotted pea-sized nuggets in the muck on his Fishwheel axle. Claims since have spread up and down from what is now as the "Discovery Claim."

"Colors" have been found consistently along a two-mile stretch of river shore adjoining Carroll's claim and there have been a few nuggets found in the frigid pans.

I have not been to the farthest claims upstream, but reports keep coming down of "colors" and a few rice-sized nuggets being panned.

"Colors" are minute specks of flake gold, commercially worthless but often indicative of more gold somewhere nearby.

Some gold seekers now are living in the lap of arctic luxury. Those whose claims are adjacent to a landing field have fixed their tents in the best Staller fashion, with stoves, sitting facilities and improvised tables.

In the true tradition of the Northland, anyone is welcome to come in and share the warmth and swap tales. Prospectors already are eager for news from home.

The tent where I am now sitting belongs to Charlie Biederman, F. H. Alexander, Robert Alexander, C. V. Johnson and Robert Barenz. Biederman is now here alone, his partners having returned to Fairbanks Sunday after staking claims. Biederman, a trapper from Eagle, Alaska, now is finishing the job of blazing boundary lines and sinking prospect holes.

The tent is about 8 x 10 feet and very warm. In the middle of the earth floor is a Yukon stove, which resembles a gaso-

line drum with a vent cut near the bottom to supply air to the burning wood. There's a plentiful supply of wood within 15 feet of the tent.

A stovepipe extends through the tent roof. Cardboard cartons are laid flat on the ground to provide insulation for our sleeping bags.

Our food locker contains eggs, bacon bread, flour, powdered milk and dehydrated vegetables. Biederman's partners keep him supplied with food.

The temperature rose sharply the last two days and now touches five degrees above zero. But we know it will drop to 15 or 20 below tonight.

**Television Pics Of Gold Strike**

Seattle, Oct. 26 (AP)—Television pictures have been taken of the gold strike at Fishwheel, Alaska, and are en route to San Francisco for processing, William J. Wagner, president of the Alaska Broadcasting Co., said today.

Wagner said he believed the pictures were the first for television taken at the site of the strike on the rim of the Arctic and among the first pictures ever taken for television in Alaska.

Jim Fletcher, manager of KFRB, Fairbanks, flew in a chartered plane to Fishwheel on October 24 after an attempt to get in the previous day had failed because of bad weather. He took with him a 16 mm camera, a wire recorder and a portable power plant to operate the recording machine.

Besides taking pictures, Fletcher also made an on-the-spot broadcast which will be released through the Columbia Broadcasting system.

**Chicago Man Draws 5 Years in Prison**

Oregon City, Oct. 27 (AP)—Leslie Allen Jacobson, 19, Chicago, was sentenced yesterday to five years in prison for burglary of an ice cream parlor near here Sept. 12.

He was caught in the act and arrested with Dean A. Culver, 18, also of Chicago. Culver had drawn a similar sentence but was paroled to his father.

Judge E. C. Latourette sentenced Jacobson. Court aides said the Chicago youth was wanted in Florida but Gov. McKay had refused to grant extradition.



**Lighthouse Mailbox**—Mailbox at home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Warren, Greater Miami, has milk and package compartment, phone to call house, and lighthouse illumination.

**Four Corners Church Work Is Pushed by Volunteers**

Four Corners, Oct. 27—Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Deckard were hosts at dinner complimenting their daughter Mrs. Hardie Phillips on her birthday anniversary. Guests invited for the occasion were Mr. and Mrs. John Phillips, Linda and John, Jr., Hardie and Janis Phillips, Miss Ruth Deckard and Miss Ginny Shewfelt of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Newell Sanders, 3266 E. State st., had as their house guest Mr. and Mrs. George Borders of Bethesda, Md. The women are sisters and hadn't seen each other for several years. The visitors flew from Washington, D.C., where he is with the U.S. Agricultural department. Mrs. Borders is employed by the Veterans Administration. They returned by way of San Francisco and Dallas, Texas.

House guest of the Albert Brant family, 4050 Beck ave., is Mrs. Brant's brother, Commander J. H. Norwood, U.S.N. retired.

Work on the Four Corners Baptist church by a volunteer crew of members of the local church and the First Baptist church of Salem is progressing nicely. They meet each Monday evening. Two Sunday school rooms in the church building have new ceiling. The plumbing and an electric stove have been installed in the church annex. Recently the annex received two coats of paint on the outside.

Members of the Four Corners Baptist church will sponsor a Halloween party at the church annex on Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock for all young people of the community. The children are reminded that Monday evening is the "treat or trick" time and not on the Sabbath.

**Japs Want U.S. Troops to Stay**

Portland, Oct. 27 (AP)—The Japanese people want United States troops to remain even after a peace treaty is signed, the confidential secretary to Premier Yoshida said here today.

The secretary, Takafumi Hishikari, said withdrawal of troops would be a threat to Japanese security. Only "a few foreign elements" want the troops to leave, he said.

He minimized the influence of red-indoctrinated war prisoners returned by the Soviet union recently. About 90 per cent of them, Hishikari said, lost their enthusiasm for communism after a couple of months in their homeland observing "the work being done by the occupation forces."

The people of Japan have been largely anti-Russian since the Russo-Japanese war and are "irrevocably opposed" to communism, he said, adding that Japanese communists have suffered in popularity in the past year "because of the unrest and strikes they have caused."

Hishikari was here today visiting Willis E. Mahoney, a prosecutor in the Japanese war crimes trials. He will leave for Tokyo tomorrow via Seattle. He said he had been in Washington on a confidential mission.

**Linn Rural School Immunization Due**

Albany—With pupils of eleven Linn county rural schools already processed, the Linn county public health department is well into its 1949-50 school immunization program, according to the report of Dr. John Guepe, Linn county health officer.

Clinics have been held thus far at the Clover Ridge, Conner, Dever, East Knox Butte, Lakeview, Knox Butte, Millersburg, Scrawellhill and Santiam Central schools in the northwestern portion of the county and the Fox Valley, Lourdes, and Lyons in the northern area.

The clinic has scheduled 78 more schools of the county to start in Albany on January 3.

Hopewell—Mrs. Richmond Horton, Mrs. Ross Rogers, Mrs. Owen Pearce of the Hopewell United Brethren church were among those going from here to attend the all day rally at the First Evangelical church in Salem.

Albany today, can boast of more hit records than any piano stylist in the music world. The band is the first in a series of big names that will play the Glenwood Ballroom this fall and winter.

**Freddie Slack's Band To Play Here Friday**

Freddie "Cow Cow Boogie" Slack and his musicians and entertainers will bow in at the Glenwood Ballroom Friday for a one-night dance engagement.

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**Miller's JEWELRY DEPT. MAIN FLOOR**

**TENDERFOOT FINDS 'COLOR' Four Prospectors, Back From Diggin's, Cold to Gold Rush**

By JOHN J. RYAN

Anchorage, Alaska, Oct. 27 (AP)—Four Cheechako prospectors returned from their diggin's at Fishwheel last night and vowed the Yukon Gold rush of 1949 was for somebody else—not them. The four men, all employees of local aircraft concerns, were Bill Lund, R. C. Stevenson, Dave Crawford and Ted Rasmussen.

While they found two nuggets during their stampede to Fishwheel, they hadn't managed to stake a single claim.

Lund and Stevenson left Anchorage in a chartered plane when the first reports of the gold strike hit town. They paid a "fancy sum" to reach Fairbanks. (Present prices quoted by bush pilots here are \$300 round trip to Fishwheel, \$150 one way).

"We wasted an afternoon before we could find a pilot who would take us on to Fishwheel at any price," said Lund. "Right after we landed on the banks of the Yukon, we broke a hole in the ice and quickly found two nuggets slightly larger than a pin head."

"That drove us wild," Stevenson said. "We chopped up about an acre of ice in a few hours. But we never managed to find another sign of gold."

The two Cheechako (tenderfoot) gold seekers tramped down the river to find some unclaimed land. "Every foot of land for seven miles upstream and six miles downstream from Fishwheel was staked," Stevenson said. "Furthermore the claims were eight deep from the south bank of the river."

"There's no claim jumping or wrangling at the scene," said Lund. "Everyone is friendly. In fact, most of the men—there's about a hundred—who have staked claims are just sitting around gabbing about how they are going to spend their money."

"People are constantly coming and going," said Stevenson. "Some people fly in and out on the same plane. Monday the first two women arrived but just looked the place over and left."

Both men agreed that there is some gold at Fishwheel.

wild reports of the strike hit here, 17 planes and seven taxicabs loaded with prospectors, gamblers and prostitutes who were too eager to wait for the weekly train, headed for Fairbanks.

Of the four men who returned last night, only Bill Lund, an Alaska airline pilot, expressed a desire to return.

"When the ice on the river freezes solid," he said, "I'm going to return by plane and land down the river from Fishwheel to stake my claim."

With tractors so big a factor in agriculture these days, the raising of horse feed has been sharply reduced.

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