

Call number: 02-00-62-24 CD 2 **COPY OF 02-00-62-01**

Albert Trana Interview

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This recording is a duplicate of parts of 02-00-62-01 Pt. 1 and Pt. 2. This recording however, is much clearer. The recording begins with Harry Hughes announcing that this is the second side of the reel of a visit to Albert Trana, an old time pioneer from Fairbanks. The portion of the beginning of this recording will be skipped up to 4:30 when Trana is discussing Dawson and some of the people there. Trana tells Harry that when he goes up next time to look for a man named Trana. He said he has been asked by people who say that there is another Trana in Dawson. Corville is discussed. He came to Fairbanks in the spring of 1927 when they started to build in Fairbanks. Croville brought a house two or three away and they were neighbors until he went up to Dawson. They sold the property to the city and the city built the bridge. Harry says if he can remember he will let Colville hear Trana's voice. The recording cuts off.

The recording resumes and Harry Hughes says that Albert Trana is going to discuss the accident he had in the early days on the railroad. Albert came to Alaska and started to work on the railroad around 1914 or 1915 after the Alaska railroad brought the property. They built the poles up in 1908 and stayed idle until 1910 or 1912 then the government purchased the railroad. The first time Albert rode on the railroad it was built for 71 miles from Seward to Corn Creek [at that time called Razor Creek]. He rode there for 20 cents a mile and it was 14 dollars and 20 cents for 71 miles. The train went once a week to hold the franchise. The conductor's name is not remembered by Albert. Albert got hurt in early 1916. The hand car dealer at Trey Lake out in Seward [about 26 miles from Seward]. He got hurt and went up to the railroad doctors. They gave him medicine and sent him out. Browns Lake was where they had a camp. He stayed there all that winter and came down and then the elbow started to pester. One of the people he met said he had TB in his elbow. He went to Anchorage. The doctor in Anchorage said he would do surgery but his arm would be three inches shorter. Albert took up a collection and got some money to add to his. He had around \$400. At that time the Alaska Railroad was shipping stuff from the Panama Canal. The recording stops.

The recording resumes and Albert is talking about Male's clinic [?]. The doctor was a specialized doctor. He asked the doctor when he could come in and they told him it would take a month because they had 3,000 ahead of Albert. Albert didn't say anything he just walked out. He went from there to Minneapolis. In Minneapolis he didn't know anyone. He has an uncle there who was a boss in the flog [?] mill. He asked the policeman where a good doctor is. The doctor said he has a doctor that is unregrettable. Albert was taken to one of the biggest buildings in Minneapolis. It was a corporation building on the 18th floor up to U.G. Williams. Albert told the cop he wanted to go to the hospital right away. The recording stops.

The recording resumes at 16:40 and there is a man asking "What happened here?" The recording of Albert Trana cuts in and Albert is discussing an operation. Albert was on the table for 2.5 hours. Another good thing is they used gas and not ether. The gas put Albert to sleep. Albert was in the hospital for between 7 and 10 days. Albert says there were places for 15 dollars a month everywhere. Albert went to the doctor's office every day. It must have been about 3 or 4 weeks and the doctor told him that the arm was no use. Then they told him he could do as he pleases but he can't be saved. The doctor told him to get the arm amputated and heave it in the river. Albert says he was on the operating table the next morning again and there was another fellow named Williams. Albert was lying on the table and the doctor put something under him for room to butcher. It didn't take very long to amputate the arm. UG Williams came there once or twice a day. Albert was complaining about the stump and Williams said he was alright. Williams never took anything off. By the ninth day he had seen a bunch of amputees that were cut. They took the bandage off the arm he looked at it. The scab was on the arm and there wasn't a speck of blood. The doctor told him that he could go to Seattle the 9th day after the operation. Albert mentions Dr. Carter and Harry says he knows who Dr. Carter is. He walked from there and to the office. He had about \$300 on him and told the doctor that he had enough to pay the job. The doctor asked if Albert could spare \$125 and Albert paid and then went to the hospital but the doctor told him that he would take care of the charges. He told Albert goodbye and wished that Albert would take care of himself.

At 24:10 of the recording Albert is saying that the Doctor U.G. Williams was a man of about 65 years old. Albert said that the doctor used his position for good. Albert said he never met a doctor like U.G. Williams. Albert says the arm never hurts him to this day. The other arm is another story. Albert says the he has rheumatoid arthritis on his other arm. Albert says he can't feel when the weather is going to change. Albert says there is another different doctor was who a horse doctor according to Albert. It was early April and there was ice out there. Albert says he didn't think there was water underneath when he was sweeping and broke 3 ribs along the spine. The recording stops.

The recording resumes at 27:05 and Harry is discussing Dr. Shaw to coming to Alaska for the Indian service. Albert says he did and then Harry says Dr. Shaw administered medicine and surgery for the Alaska Natives. Dr. Shaw was born and raised in Nairobi in South Africa. Albert says Shaw got his medicine from Brazil. Albert begins talking about his rheumatoid arthritis coming back in his arm. Albert got put on the x-ray table. The doctor asked Albert to look at the x-ray. The doctor told Albert that there was something on his elbow. He got a second opinion from a doctor in Anchorage and was told the same thing. The doctor told him to let it go for a while and see what happens with the elbow. After a while the arthritis started to disappear. There was another time when Trana got the same rheumatoid arthritis in Anchorage in his ankle and the doctors told him the same thing. The recording stops.

A new portion of the recording resumes at 31:25 and Harry says Albert is going to discuss Mount Campy, the volcano, when it blew up in Alaska in 1912. Albert says it happened in the spring of 1912. Albert and Bob Lang and Burt Harper were trapping down at Chickaloon Bay and were going up the creek for the mines up there. It was just about where Anchorage is right now near the bay. It was 8 or 9 o'clock in the evening. They heard a loud boom and it sounded like someone was throwing stumps. Albert asks

his group who was throwing stumps. They went up the road and set up camp. There were half dozen mines up there and they were waiting to get work. Anchorage wasn't on the map yet. The following morning everything was cloudy. It was cloudy all the way to Vancouver. Captain Cramer was from Seldovia and asked Albert to clean his boat of the ash. Albert says the ash was heavy like lead. Frank Young is in the background. Albert says the location was called the Valley of 10,000 Smokes. Albert says the Standard Oil sent people down when Albert was in Livengood. Albert says it was a wonderful scene. There were photographers taking pictures of all of the smoke. The recording ends.