

have done a lot of snowshoeing there. Its real wet stuff and you would have to get up to at least 1000 meters by lift to get the really good powder snow. Some of the mountains go up to 5000 feet. And is really beautiful with all the big timber starting up from the shore and all the islands. The forest service has been really picky about building a cabin on any of the national forests and is withdrawn until the native claims are settled, so nobody in town will build permanent ^{structures with a lot of time + energy spent} housing because the forest service will go down there and burn or move them down off. What they have done is build a lot of saunas on the little islands so that fisherman and go out and clam for a little while and get filthy dirty and then go into a sauna and clean up. There is always stacks of wood and rocks along the sides of the saunas. They stoke it up and then go out and jump into the stream or lake. I decided against homesteading near McKinley because it was too cold, too rough and subsistence living. The Chelidna area looks better and there are many whitefish that could be used for eating and feeding dogs. The ^{mt} McKinley area was overtrapped in the past for fur-bearing mammals and as it was unprofitable trappers stopped. Now it is beginning to look better and the animals are starting to come back a little bit. Even when you trap too much and wipe out the animals, as long as the habitat is not destroyed the animals surrounding the area will come back with a little bit of time.

We went up the Yanort River and crossed over the Alaska Range and skied down the Wood River to Fairbanks.

On the overland trip to Fairbanks it only took us 10 days. It was a cold trip and we had a really hard time with the overflow ice on the river. It got up to about 36°F one afternoon and we travelled in our T shirts and with the upwelling of the water and we would travel about 100 yards and then we had to stop to get the ice off our skis. There was one dog team and we would get up about 8:00 o'clock and start on the trail and then the dog musher would go back to sleep and later ^{at 9:00} leave camp and catch up with us ^{at 2:00} and pass us to go on to make the next camp. at 4:00 P.M. Then we would come in about 6:00 o'clock all sweat and hot and were able to move into our 8 x 10 wall tent with a stove. I went outside by myself in a mountain tent and nearly froze to death. When you pack along you use a candle in your tent whereas in a large tent which the dog pull you can use a Coleman light. The bag I used was good for 20° below but with a stove you