

Finley Says New Film Spectacular

Journal 10-20-32
"The most spectacular pictures I have ever taken," is the designation which William L. Finley, nationally-known naturalist, gives the motion pictures of the Kodiak bear at work and at play, taken in a tour of several months in British Columbia and Alaska.

These pictures are listed for showing at 4 p. m. today, and at 4 p. m. and 8:15 p. m., Friday, in the Benson high auditorium.

On the expedition with Finley was Arthur N. Pack, president of the American Nature association, and their work took them into Glacier bay and up to Muir glacier, where they obtained remarkable pictures of tons of ice breaking off the glaciers and dropping into the sea. They also were fortunate in getting fine pictures of whales at play.

Finley Shows Pictures of Alaskan Scenes.

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Naturalist Gives Talk on Trip at
Benson Polytechnic School.

WILLIAM L. FINLEY charmed several hundred children and adults yesterday at the Benson Polytechnic school auditorium with his presentation of a series of moving pictures, showing adventures in the open, hunting and making friends with wild animals in Alaska. The show was more than one hour in duration, and the amusing antics of the animals snapped by the cameras provoked peals of laughter from the youngsters.

Mr. Finley and his associates went by steamship to Alaska waters. They obtained moving picture views of rushing rivers, mountain scenery, scenes on shipboard and adventures generally with wild animals. These included bears fishing for salmon, close-ups to catch expressions on the faces of bears when near the camera, and the various hunts to catch a whale to provide winter meat for young foxes on an island fox farm. The most exciting views are those depicting the shooting of a big whale with a harpoon fired from a gun, and hauling the whale's body to be hoisted on board. Mr. Finley gave vivid word descriptions of his trip.

The pictures will again be shown in the same auditorium this afternoon at 4 o'clock and tonight at 8.

NATURALIST TO LECTURE

Oregonian
William L. Finley Leaves on Tour
of East and South.

10-30-32
William L. Finley, world-famed naturalist, left his home here last night for a four-month lecture tour that will take him through the mid-west, east and south, as well as part of the southwest.

He is billed to lecture Monday night in Minot, N. D., and from there will swing through the twin cities, Chicago, Cleveland, and so to Boston and New York, speaking later in and out of Atlanta, Dallas, Tex., and Los Angeles. Mrs. Finley will join him in New York city. Mr. Finley will lecture upon the Kodiak bear and the whales of Alaskan waters.

BEAR, WHALE AND THE SEA

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TWO tousled bear cubs tumbled each other about in a washtub. Black paws, with claws yet untrained to viciousness, battered with playful clumsiness. Later these two would rear themselves in the full size of maturity to giant height among forest dwellers on Kodiak island. They would battle with a strength and ferocity unequaled among Alaskan bears.

Yet the two in the tub, and the huge, mature beasts later seen in William L. Finley's motion picture, "Adventures in Alaska; or the Kodiak Bear," are akin in spirit of tolerance that asks only to be left alone by those not of their kind. Hulking giants haunt the fish streams for their favorite sport and food. Not to catch with their paws, as generally supposed, but to approach with stealth, leap swiftly and snatch with their teeth, do the Kodiak bears fish the shallows for salmon. If startled, they vanish with a clumsy and ludicrous swiftness. If curious, they approach the camera hidden in the blind, thrust inquisitive nose closer, and, sensing danger but still doubtful, swing to rear quarters and walk backward like awkward clowns until put to flight by scent of the intruder.

William Finley, Oregon's own nature man, has caught this spirit of Alaskan wild life in his pictures shown for the first time to Portland audiences Friday night at the Benson auditorium. Armed with cameras, with guns only for protection, Finley and his party cruised the Alaskan shore line, penetrated into long inlets left by old glaciers, landed on Admiralty island, Kodiak island and craggy bird shelters in the sea, lay offshore the rocky cliffs at Ford's Terror, and entered Glacier bay.

To shoot with camera, and not with gun; to picture, not to kill, the nature man and his wife, who accompanies him on expeditions; Arthur N. Pack, president of the American Nature association of Washington, D. C., and others, boarded the 86-foot diesel yacht Westward, out of Ketchikan. As a result of their latest and former expeditions they have a collection of the finest wild-life pictures ever made in the Far North.

At Forrester island they photographed the tufted puffin, or sea parrot, the rhinoceros auklet, and the Alaskan petrels, or Mother Carey's chickens, as they are called by sailors.

They lay offshore of the great Muir glacier, named for John Muir, who discovered it in 1879, and watched vast mountains of ice projected into the sea with the sound of cannon and an upheaval of water that almost swamped their boat a mile away. Muir glacier is 300 feet high, according to Finley, and a mile wide at the "snout." It drains 600 miles of inland country.

In the open sea they photographed the dolphin, which followed their boat, and in a school of

whales at play they made many pictures of the sea killers spouting and rolling in sportive mood. Although they harpooned for dolphins and whales, they could not kill the whales at play, said Finley.

"Cruising North," "Off to Glacier Bay," "Tide Line to Mountain Top," "Thar She Blows" and "The Great Bear of Alaska" are titles of the five reels of film of scenic Alaska and intimate animal life. "One touch of nature makes the whole world kin" might well be the name of this splendid collection. Finley, the nature man, has sensed the spirit between man and beast, fish and fowl, that makes for understanding when evil is not present and God's language is the universal tongue.

Finley leaves for the East next week to take the pictures and his message of Alaska to the Atlantic Coast, the Mid-West and the South. The good wishes of Portland go with him for his part in bringing close to home and opening the eyes of others to unknown beauties and mysteries of that vast part of the Pacific Northwest, Alaska.