

Scene I

Getting a patient to hospital before 1940

(The mother is sick and coughs)

Mother; Dear I think I should go to the hospital. My cough seems to be worse and I feel weaker.

Father; Yes, I should have thought of this long before now. We'll go right away. I'll get the dogs ready.

(He goes out and comes back in).

Mother; Children, we are going to Naarstriver. Get ready, we are leaving right away.

Tom; (As father comes in) Daddy, after I get dressed, do you want me to help you?

Father; Yes, you can get the komatik ready, while I help mother.

Ruth; I'm dressed. Will we get there before dark?

Mother; We'll get there after about four days I s'pose.

(They help mother get dressed and prepare to leave)

Dogs bark)

Father; (As they start) Hut! Hut! Go Skipper. Hedda! Hedda!

(Dogs bark) (Four days have gone by and now they are nearing Butter and Snow which is just below North West River)

Tom; Look Daddy there's a house over there.

Father; That's Uncle Richies. We'll stop for a cup of tea.

Mother; Please hurry, I feel cold.

Ruth; Mom, I thought we'd get there before dark.

(They leave stage, count ten and come back in)

Uncle Rich; Hello there, Where are you heading?

Father; We're headin for Naar Striver. Jane is very sick. We've been on the way for four days. She hasn't been well since October and this is March.

(They leave stage, count ten and come back in)

Uncle Rich; You got a nice team of dogs there.

Father; They're pretty good. Thanks for the cup of tea. We'd better move on. I want to get there before too late. (They go on to arrive at N.W.R. late in the evening.

Tom; Hey, Mommy we're there. (They go off stage)

Scene II

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This scene shows how a patient is transported to hospital today in comparison with travelling by dog team in earlier days.
Nurse; CJI3I, CJI3I, CJI3I, North West River, 55 Rigolet.

RTO; Go ahead Rigolet.

Rigolet; Is Dr. Paddon there please?

RTO; Just a second;

Dr. Paddon; Hello Helen, Go ahead please.

Helen; Dr. I have a patient, a fifteen year old girl with a severe pain in the right side, along with vomiting and a temperature of 102, there's tenderness there also.

Dr. First of all, get her to drink lots of fluids. It sounds serious. We'll send the plane in a few minutes.

Helen; Thanks, Dr. Paddon. Rigolet out.

Dr. P. (Bye. N.W.R. out. An hour passes, in the meantime the patient is ready waiting for the plane to fly over.

Patient; My side hurts. The pain is sharper now.
(sound of plane)

Nurse; Jean, are you O.K.? The plane is here. We'll get Albert right away with his skidoo. (They get ready to leave) (knock at the door)

Nurse; Hello Dr. Paddon.

Dr. Hello, How's the patient?

Nurse; Fine, but painin';

Dr. Hello Jean. We'll have you there in a few minutes.

Pilot; Is that all Helen?

Nurse; Yes, Ross. (A few minutes after they leave stage. Sound of plane. 45 minutes after the plane leaves the patient is at N.W.R. hospital safe and sound in comparison with four days travelling by dog team in them days.

Scene III

This scene shows how the mail was delivered in 1940. The mail boat, the S.S. Kyle has just left Battle Harbour and the mailman.

Mr. Flynn opens the scene.

Mr. Flynn; Well, the old Kyle is gone for this month. I'll be starting for Mary's Harbour with the mail tomorrow.

Mrs. Flynn; My this is the first mail run this year. What date is it? It's Dec. 5 1940. I will get your dickie and your sealskin boots ready, then I'll pack your grubbox.

Mr. Flynn; I'll be off in a couple of hours.

Mrs. Flynn; Try not to catch cold and take care of yourself.

Mr; Flynn; I will. (At Mary's Harbour Mr. Flynn has now arrived there to pass the mail on to Mr; Smith)

Smith; How are you Flynn? Bad going through that snow? What a blizzard!

Mr; Flynn; Fine boy. The going's not too bad. I was lucky to have a fair wind. (They load mail on komatik)

Mr; Flynn; Good bye. Have a good trip Smith.

Smith; Good bye, Flynn. (A day has gone by and Smith now has reached Black Tickle)

Mr; Keefe; Well Smith, Come in, Come in I'd take at least 4 hours because of the blizzard, but it cleared us eh?

Mr. K. How's everything at Mary's Harbour?

Smith; Fine, Fine When will you be leavin'?

Mr. K; As soon as I load the mail boy.
(They load keefe komatik) Good bye, Smith.

Mrs. Smith; Good bye, Keefe. (Mr. Keefe is on his way for Cartwright which he reaches late next evening) As he nears Cartwright Uncle Ben sees him as he comes in sight)

Mrs; W; Oh, you'll see Wilfred tomorrow when you get to Back Bay.

Mr; Ben; How was the trip Keefe?

Keefe; It was alright.

Mrs; Keefe; Come in. Come in. (He stays overnight)
Next morning

Mr; Keefe; Good bye, Ben. You'll be in Rigolet tomorrow, I guess.

Mr; Ben W; I suppose so, bye Keefe.

Mr; W; Good bye. Take care while I'm gone.

Mrs; W; Good bye,

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Wilfred; Here comes Uncle Ben. We'll be off for Rigolet tomorrow.
(Uncle Ben arrives to Back Bay)

Wilfred; Hello Uncle Ben. Good trip? Cold?

Mr; W; Not too bad, boy. How you been?

Wilfred; Fine, come in.

(Next day they go to Rigolet. Uncle Ben returns to Cartwright
and Mr; Shiwalk heads for North West River)

Mr. S; Good bye. Take care of the children.

Mrs; S. Take care of yourself. Don't go when it's too rough and cold.

He leaves for Rigolet to pick up the mail before going on to North West River.

At N.W.R. Hello Mr; Keats. How are you, Sir?

Mr K; Good to see you, Wilfred. How is everyone at Rigolet?

Mr; S; Fine. Cold weather.

Mr; K; Come in for a cup of tea, Wilfred.

Mr; S; Thank you.

Mr; S; I'll be leaving for home tomorrow.

Mr; K; Say hello to Mr; Budgell and everyone.
The next morning

Wilfred; Good bye Mr; Keats.

Mr; K; Bye Wilfred. Have a nice trip. See you next month.

LabAIR

AGENT at Rigolet

Mrs. F; 35 Rigolet calling Goose Bay, how do you read, / over?

LABAIR Agent

IN Goose Bay; Come in Vern. Reading you loud and clear.

Rigolet; Is the mail plane coming in today?

Goose Bay; She's off for Rigolet. Call the Twin Otter and see how far out she is.

Mrs; F; 35,35 Rigolet calling Twin Otter, Come in please, over.

Pilot Twin Otter; Back to 35 Rigolet, Reading loud and clear.

LAB Agent Rigolet; We'll be in Rigolet in 35 minutes.

Rigolet Mail Man; Get skidoo and komatok ready.

(sound of mail plane)

Pilot; Good landing this morning boy.

Larry; Lots of mail today; See you on Thursday and Saturday, Bye.