

5-12-1917

### Minthorn Letters

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METLAKATLA ALASKA MAY 12th, 1917

MR. H. S. WELLCOME 18, E, 41st, STREET NEW YORK CITY N. Y.

Document No. 14

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

Folder No. 254

**H** Mr. Duncan Received 25 letters on last mail day and he has seemed quite different since I attribute it to something contained in some of his letters, probably one Recd. from Miss, Cridge, influenced by anything from the Cridges and McDonalds than by anything from any other source, Anyway this has been by far the best week he has had since you left,

**Church** I attended the Sunday evening service and the house was quite well filled, and all seemed to be very much interested in what was said, I think the interest in the services is increasing, and I think it is due to increased interest in what is said,

**Canneries** ADOLPHUS has been attending the Church services and has been twice to see Mr. Duncan, and has been in to see me also, Sidney comes to Church regularly, Work has commenced on the new Cannery Building, The Boss boards with Schells, He sent word to Alex, that he would give him \$4.00 Per, day to work on the building, and that the work would last most of the summer,

**Agriculture** We are nearly through with planting the garden, and have gone all over the berry bushes and put them in good shape, Mr. Duncan seems quite reconciled to the garden now and talks some of putting in some himself, He had promised some of the ground in the best part of the garden to Moses but he said today that he thought Moses had enough other work to do and that I had better put the ground in, The Cook quit and he got Maria again,

**Criticisms of Marsden** Marsden had another CRAFTY article in the KETCHIKAN paper with John Davis name to it Mr. Duncan made inquiry so far as this locality is concerned although entirely untrue, but it is calculated to have a very decided and entirely misleading effect upon the Presbyterian Board if it should happen to come to their notice,

**Fisheries** As it gave the impression that there was great PROSPERITY at METLAKATLA, whereas I think there was never so much scarcity as now and a fewer number of people employed and such high prices and so little to buy with, Especially is this true of the poor, I think never in the history of the village has there been so many destitute people as now, and I am sure that never in the history of the place has every thing been so managed as to give all the advantages to those who were best able to provide for themselves, and never was there such a close corporation managed entirely in the interest of a few, And at the expense of the community, all of the 3,000 foot strip of sea that the Sec. of the Interior added to the Island so far has only benefitted a few white Cannerymen and a few leading natives who happened to be in official position, that made it possible for them to apply it to their own benefit,

And further the use they have made of it has also deprived every other native of benefits formerly derived from it in common to all the people, So that what was intended to benefit the community has actually worked a great hardship on the COMMUNITY, But it is of no use



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Solomon is getting \$3.50 a day at the mine and is giving good satisfaction and they have built him a house, and I suppose he will stay there. Alex is getting \$5.50 a day in Ketchikan, Andrew has a job as Engineer on a Boat running out of Ketchikan,

These and many others are those that were educated in the School of actual practice and experience provided by Mr. Duncans system of shops and the avocations of daily life incident to the locality in which they lived,

The fact that the mill is now running after lying idle for nearly four years and work is being done on a building intended for a cannery is encouraging,

Your friend

H. J. Minthorn

(Signed in ink.)

(Copied from a typewritten letter.--M.G.)



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Folder No. 254

Walter Jais got back from his HUNT with 5 Mink and 2 Land Otter, John Hudson will put his boat in the water tomorrow, and I think Tom, Hanbury will soon have his in the water also,

I got about 100, Loganberry and quite a lot of Himalya Blackberry roots from Oregon and set out some and distributed the others among the people, I also got some tall Cranberry bushes from Oregon, and I am going to put out a lot of the wild cranberry bushes in front of the Guest House where it is dug up,

MR, DUNCAN speaks of you every day and wonders where you are, &c, &c,

Poor Old NADMI, seems to be dying MR, DUNCAN went to see her and he said they had her in a little tent in one corner of the room and she was entirely naked and had only one blanket, he was looking for some flannels for her,

MR, DUNCAN is going to have MARIA wash all the blankets, sheets, pillow slips &c, in the guest House, I told him you had left money to pay for it and wanted everything put in first class order,

The cook seems to be HAPPIER and is getting along all right, I am afraid I will never get so I can do a good job on the typewriter but I can make much better time than I did,

YOUR FRIEND

HJMinthorn

(Signed in ink)

Probably the way to get the most good out of the Fishing Priveleges would be to let the Natives have the full control of them, and require 1¢ for each fish caught to go into the Educational fund, Right here it might be used to add the Day Boarding Department to the School This would bring other natives to locate here and increase the benefit of the school

I consider it nothing short of a calamity to have a Cannery run by white men located here, Ever since these men have been interested in this proposed building of the new Cannery they have been here every Sunday and the natives who were interested with them in the contract were out of church, I suppose consulting with them about the work and boats have been operating and there has been a general disregard of the Sabbath, and still it was only preliminary, I do not think it is difficult to predict what it would be if the Cannery was in operation,

I find in looking over the report of the Bureau of Education for 1914 & 15 that OTHER reservations have been made and from the REASONS given for making and remarks made, I do not think there is any probability that any of them will ever be ABANDONED but it is more likely that OTHERS will be made,

I learned from MR, SCHELL, (not to be repeated) that the SECRETARY had signed the contract and it was sent to the CANNERYMEN to sign and they had sent notice to MR, SCHELL and the COM, Co, to suspend operations until further notice, Giving as a reason that if CONGRESS should take



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The goods are being moved into the new store today,

I am going on with the garden work when the weather is fit JOHN BUXTON and JOSIAH GUTHRIE are doing the digging This is monday (Monday) and MR. DUNCAN went over various things, he had made several remarks about it He asked me if you left money to pay the men, I told him YES, So he said to go on with it, I then told him that I had seen two barrels of slacked lime in the old warehouse and I would like to use it on the garden, and he said well, A test with Litmus paper shows this soil to be strongly acid so that Lime may have a decided effect on the crop and clam shells could be used to make lime so that it might be a help to the people to give the lime a trial,

Where the tracts of land are so small as they are here it is important to get the best possible yield, Especially where the fertilizers are to be had easily, as they are here, I want to make a good showing with the garden if I can, principally on account of the effect on the village gardening,



METLAKATLA ALASKA MAY 20th, 1917

MR, H, S, WELLCOME 18, E, 41st, STREET NEW YORK CITY

DEAR MR, WELLCOME

H

MR, DUNCAN WAS VERY MUCH PLEASED TO RECEIVE A LETTER from you yesterday sent from Portland, and seemed very much gratified with the contents, I have written several letters to you but not knowing your address I sent them to this address, I think I have written once each week since you left here, but of course now that the people are mostly away there is not much going on and so not much to write about. There were only about 60 people at church today, including some white men belonging to the survey ship,

Church

Work is progressing on the cannery building, and there is some talk now that there will be a one line cannery operated here this summer, that will employ about 40 people,

Canneries

The teachers and the Nurse have left except Schells and Guild, Mr, Guild I understand is to keep the books for the Com. Co, and about the cannery business, I think most of the people are engaged in fishing either for Halibut or Spring Salmon, and I think prices are good, When they deliver fish at the Packing House they lay in a supply of fish heads and fish roe, and that disposes of the bulk of the food question, High priced flour is very slow sal Sea weed is also in great demand and a large quantity is being laid in,

Books

Fishing

Some of the boys have enlisted in the Navy, and Very careful inquiry is being made in reference to all kinds of sea going craft, even the small Gas Boats, I think some real good material could be had among the people here and among the Natives of Alaska generally for the Ship Building plants

Vessels

It would have been a great time to have given a start to AGRICULTURAL employments among the natives if it had been utilized, but of course just a PRINTED appeal to people who, very few of them can read, does not have very much effect, It ought to have been some ones business to make some kind of a PERSONAL effort among them, I am of the opinion that this soil would yield good returns to an intelligent system of, SOIL TREATMENT, There is a large amount of VEGETABLE MOULD on the surface, which is in need of something to reduce the ACIDITY, in order to make it produce,

Agriculture

So far as FERTILIZERS are concerned there is no limit to the supply of Sea Weed and Bog Moss, both of which are good fertilizers, and I think all the canneries throw away all the offal, which is the very best of Fertilizer, I do not see why this Sea-Weed could not be put into compressed bales and shipped quite a distance profitably for use as a Fertilizer, One burlap sack loosely filled is the amount used for 25 feet of Potato row and no matter how poor the soil it brings a good crop, and the rows are about two feet apart and the seed put in about four inches apart, and with only very indifferent cultivation



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subject in which he is interested. And I have not heard anything from any other source. Mr. Smiley was here yesterday and called on Mr. Duncan, with so far as I can judge satisfactory results,

Canneries Mr. Duncan goes to look at the cannery operations almost every day and seems quite interested in them. He speaks almost every meal time of you and expresses a very lively interest in your doings. I do not think he expects much attention to be paid to the business during this strenuous time. He has ceased to pay any attention to the gardening operations and does not seem to be thinking about it.

As I said in my last letter he has seemed quite different since receiving his mail two weeks ago which I attribute to his having received some especial \_\_\_\_\_ from some one most probably Miss Cridge,

Cooking The last cook is not very satisfactory. Having one very bad failing for a COOK Viz, that she does not know anything about COOKING, and I am afraid she is too old to learn, and there is no one to teach her, &c, &c. But she is a great success at spoiling high priced FOOD,

FROM YOUR FRIEND

H J Minthorn (Signed in ink.)

(Copied from a typewritten letter.--M.G.)



METLAKATLA ALASKA MAY 28th, 1917

MR. H. S. WELLCOME 18, E. 41st, STREET, NEW YORK CITY N.Y.

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

I Recd, the copy of the autobiography of Mr. Stanley and have read it with great interest, Not so much on account of the things he did as on account of the kind of a man he was, Of which I did not know much before, I think the Lord saw that he would bear Training for a great field of usefulness, I am sure his Autobiography will be a great help to many young people,

We are having warmer weather and things are growing, I think we will have quite a display of garden crops and flowers, Mr. Duncan had a boy digging for a day or two and said he was going to plant some Turnips, but I have not heard anything about it for some days, We are having plenty of Rhubarb and there is plenty to spare, It seems that the soil in Alaska is very strongly acid I wonder if that is the reason that Rhubarb does so well.

I planted some rows of Grain, Wheat, Oats, Barley, and Vetch, In rows of one of each making sets of four rows, The first I did not use anything, The second four I used lime, the third I used a General Fertilizer, Nitrates, Phosphates, &c, and on the fourth I used both Lime and the Fertilizer, The rows with the lime applied are very manifestly more thrifty than the others, (except where both were applied) and that with lime is as good as where both lime and Fertilizer were applied,

Where nothing was applied the growth is very very slight, It really seems as though where there is from one to two feet of decayed vegetable matter forming the surface soil that vegetation ought to grow and probably it is because of the excess of acid that such poor results have been obtained,

I am also trying some Clover seed on the moss, as I see that gradually other grasses are getting started on the moss lands, If Clover would get a good stand on the moss lands it would open up a much more profitable method of utilizing the soil than to try to farm it as stock could be kept and silos could be used, and the very great expense of clearing the land could be avoided, I think I will put some lime on the moss land that I have sowed to clover,

I find that the people here use two kinds of sea weed, A kind of Moss called Bog Moss, any of the Offal from the canneries, and Star Fish as Fertilizers Each one thinks the kind that he uses is the best, and good results seem to be obtained from all of them,

I had a letter from Mary today and she says she has been offered a place in the Ketchikan school as teacher of Domestic Science, I do not hear from Dr. Gertrude very often, I think the mails are very uncertain to and from India, She says that some of the Hospital supplies are almost unobtainable and the



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from here serving time in the Ketchikan Jail One is the fellow who struck Bensalls boy. One is Bates of the former firm of Bolton and Bates, and One is Joel Bains brother. I think Joel is sticking very close to the Halibut Fishing, and must be doing well. John Hudson has a job at buying fish for the Ketchikan packing House. I think every one that wants to work has a job,

Benjamin Haldane since he had to pay the \$400.00 fine is attending strictly to fishing and I have no doubt will very soon have the \$400.00 again, and probably be the better off for his HAVING to get busy and make an extra effort. What these people need is just what they used to have in Mr. Duncan (a first class business manager) and also the very thing they think they DO NOT need,

Work is progressing on the cannery building, favorably barring a few accidents, none of which are serious. Heckmans brother came and got some of the SOLDIER. There are some petty thefts, which I suppose will increase until some one sets a sentence. The Captain of the Explorer is here and is on the lookout for the fellow who took the things out of the Boat House,

FROM YOUR FRIEND

H J Minthorn

(Signed in ink.)

(Copied from a typewritten letter.--M.G.)



Document No. 17

Folder No. 254

17  
May

H

PAMPHLET

OUR MISSION WORK: AUGUSTA, ME., MAY, 1917.

Sermons

On page ten (10) there is a Sermon By Matilda W. Atkinson.



METLAKATLA ALASKA JUNE 10 1917

17  
6-10

MR. E. S. WELLCOME 18, E. 41st. STREET NEW YORK CITY N.Y.

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

We have been having a storm but it has cleared up now and is warm again and things are looking fine. The garden is looking well some of the potatoes are 6in. high. The apple trees are in bloom. The little birds that Mr. Duncan calls the RIPENER has commenced his work of ripening the berries, and the prospect is good for a good crop.

Church There were quite a lot of people at church to the morning service. Mr. Duncan preached from LUKE 21. Ver. 5 to 25. He seems to not be so easily excited for a few days. He speaks frequently of leaving here. I think when his affairs are adjusted it would be well for him to go to some such place.

Successor Of course it will be necessary to have a successor and that should be done. Some young man who would feel like devoting his life to the work. I think it would be best for Mr. Duncan to leave when he comes, and give him a free hand, to work out the best results he could in accordance with the GENERAL plan that Mr. Duncan has in mind.

It seems to me that his work should include the OLD place as well as this and if a large enough man could be secured for the work it should also include the TELINGETS and HYDAS. This would have to be done by using the CHRISTIAN people of Mr. Duncans church and getting them to locate as leaders in other communities. I think the present methods of Missionary work are in this direction. These people would like to do something of this kind and I think would very readily fall in with it under the skillful management of a good leader. I think you should come with the leader when he comes and help to get him started.

Moses, wife has been quite sick but is better now. I am thinking of going to Pr. Rupert tomorrow to meet Mary. I think I told you that she had a place offered her in Ketchikan school. I am very glad to have her even that near as I will get to see her sometimes while she is there.

How would it do for the new man to put in the first six months at the OLD place in learning the language.

Sunday School MR. Duncan had 20, at the juvenile S. S. today, which is very good for this time of the year.

Canneries Work is progressing on the new cannery building. I think the fishing has been better for a few days and some have made very good wages. I think most of them are engaged for the summer, and they are being offered good wages, but the living expenses are so high that they will not be much better off. I think high wages have a tendency to make people extravagant and in that way off set whatever advantage might be derived from them, but I suppose things will adjust themselves some way.

Vessels Tom, Hanbury has finished his boat and it is FINE. James Lisk has his new boat out of the shop and is putting the finishing touches on it. Maria Booth seems to be improving some in her cooking.



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He seems to be thinking about the Canning Business and the wages paid and cost of material seems to astonish him and he does not seem to believe that they can afford to do it. He wants to have some chickens but does not think he will be here long enough to justify it. We have not had Salmon since you left. The people seem to think it is almost too high to eat  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ a pound.

The survey boat Explorer is working in Dixons Entrance and so comes in frequently. The Captain is very friendly to Mr. Duncan.

Mr. Hawkesworth has been here. He seemed in very high spirits. I think on account of the progress of the work on the cannery building. I suppose that the success of that will condone everything, on the principle that the END justifies the MEANS. It is certainly a fine building, and is going to look fine. The report is that 40 people will be employed in the cannery this summer. That it will be a ONE line, this year, 2, next and 3, the next, &c.

Completed

Your friend

H. J. Minthorn  
(Signed in pencil)

(Copied from a typewritten letter.--M.g.)



METLAKATLA ALASKA June 19/17

MR. H. S. WELLCOME 18, E 41ST, STREET NEW YORK CITY N. Y.

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

I went to Pr. Rupert last week to meet Mary she arrived there on Tuesday night and I got there on Wednesday morning.

We left there about 5 p.m. Wednesday on the Str. Pr. George. They had 50 men on board that were going to Graham Island, which is about 100 miles west of Pr. Rupert, they were going there to work for the Govt, getting out lumber for Aeroplanes, Spruce Lumber, some that is said to be more than usually tough. They said the Govt had a complete sawmill plant already to operate and that each one of the men was considered an expert in some line of the work. It took us all that day and until almost noon the next day to get to Ketchikan and in going we went past Metlakatla,

That is west of Annette Island. We did not find any way to get home from Ketchikan until Saturday. I saw several of the Metlakatla people at Ketchikan. Aleck, was working for Mr. Strong in the new cannery and said he was getting \$6.25 per day. I saw Tom Hanbury, he was just leaving for Cape Chacon. He said some of the people were making as high as 80 dollars per boat out there, in a day. I saw Andrew, he is Engineer on what seemed to be quite a good sized boat. I also saw Atkinson; some one said he had a job at some cannery, I think every one has a job that wants to work. Strong's cannery was running canning Steel Heads which they say are fully two weeks early this year, and the run is said to be very heavy and the quality good.

Mr. Strong said they had bought their tin a year ago enough for 135,000 cases, so they do not need to worry, as some of the cannery men are doing. They have a very up to date cannery, and it is very wonderful how much improvement there has been in a few years in the process. Mary is going to teach in the Ketchikan school this year, she had an opportunity to meet some of the school directors and get some ideas about the work. Mr. Bergstresser is the Chairman of the board, and Mr Strong's brother is one of the directors. She is to get \$1050.00 for nine months. She is going home and stay a few days and look after things (this part torn off) return here until her school commences.

I heard from Mr. Duncan since I returned that Mr. Schell is going (this part torn off) I think that Mr. Duncan rather regrets it although he did not just say so. I am sure I think that his leaving cannot but be for the worse, so far as the mission is concerned. I think Mr. Schell's attitude has been a distinct criticism on all that went before. And I suppose as Mr. Lopp has the making of the appointment he will take good care to see that the next one does not give the same impression as Mr. Schell has given.

Mr. Duncan is not so Radical in his statements in regard to the treatment accorded him by Jones Beattie & co, but he seems more sad and discouraged. He said a few days ago that if he had known that he would have been treated as he has and that things would have come out as they have



(5-12-17)

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We have been having Rain Rain all (all) the time since we came home, not just a sprinkle but pouring down. Both Dr. Ben Myers and Mr. Strong said they thought they would be over when Dr. John Myers came home about July 1st, I very much hope they will. After Dr. John comes home Dr. Ben is going below for a few weeks. I saw a letter fro (from) Solomon to Dr. Ben when I was at Ketchikan. He said Marsden had been over to the mine to see him. And it seems he was trying to intimidate him, and Solomon wrote to Dr. Myers to LOOK OUT FOR HIM. Dr. Myers also had a letter fro (from) Marsden in his usual THREATENING vein.

Work (Work) is progressing slowly on the cannery, but it is a very fine building so far. I hope Mr. Duncan will get a card from you, as he seems to wish to so much. YOUR FRIEND

(Sgd.) H J Minthorn

(Marginal note)

Mr. Schell is thinking of remaining in Ketchikan. It might be well for Mr. Duncan's case for him to be conveniently near, and he might also find it to his advantage

Mr. Schell has just been in and shown me a letter from Mr. Lopp. The substance of which is that Mr. Schell is out entirely and Beattie is appointed to take his place, and will be here July 1st.

(Copied from a typewritten document.--M.G.)



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6-19

June 19, 1917

METLAXATLA ALASKA

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DR. B. L. MYERS

KETCHIKAN ALASKA

DEAR DOCTOR MR. SCHELL has just been in and shown me a letter from Mr. Lopp. The substance of which is that Mr. Schell is entirely out and Mr. Beattie is appointed in his place and is to be here July 1st,

Mr. Schell is thinking of locating in Ketchikan. As I see it it would be a good thing for Mr. Duncans case for Mr. Schell to be near. As in case of any future investigation he would be a valuable witness,

I have mentioned to him the Idea of a set of abstract books, and Notary Public and R. E. business. He may call on you, or at least he may see you. I may be mistaken but I think I see how this action of Mr. Lopp might help to settle things, and I have no doubt it is so intended,

I think it would be all for the good to have things settled some way, as this division and uncertainty is bad for all concerned,

You may be able to suggest something to Mr. Schell or direct him to some one who will,

YOUR FRIEND

(Sgd.) H. J. Minthorn

If you are writing to Mr. Wellcome it might be well to mention this



KATLAKATLA ALASKA June 28th 1917

MR, H. S. WELLCOME 18, E 41ST, STREET NEW YORK

DEAR MR, WELLCOME

I told you in my letter last week that Mr. Schell was to leave and Mr. Beattie was to take his place. From the letter that Mr. Schell Recd, I would infer that Mr. Lopp was very much disgusted with the Schells and evidently intended to make them feel it,

It seems Mr. Lopp had been to Washington and had went to see Mr. Beattie on his way there and so had made sure of his ground. And so also the action must have had the approval of the Com. of Education. Probably the meaning of it is that all past action of the Com. of Education is to be vigorously defended and every possible effort be made to justify it,

Mr. Duncan seems to be very much gratified that Mr. Schell is out because he took the room adjoining the room where he holds his evening services, (as he says) He does not seem to give him any credit for his encouragement of a more Moral and religious sentiment in the community. What Mr. Beattie will do remains to be seen. But I consider the prospects for the mission are not to say the least any improved. What I think they will do is to commence a diligent effort to find some excuse to justify them in having Mr. Duncan removed. And of course they have all sorts of advantage as they always have had. And not the least is that they have one helper (Marsden) in such an effort who not only has a strong incentive to bring it about but is not hindered by the least scruple as to the means employed, and scarcely knows when he is telling the truth,

But at the same time he was never so unpopular Mr. Duncan says that Silas Booth was discharged from the work on the Cannery building because he did not have stock in the Com. Co, and so it is now that the Com. Co, runs everything in their own way. This of course leaves the vast majority out of any possibility of getting any benefit from all that is being done and of course makes them disgusted with so onesided an arrangement. I am giving you this and other information from week to week not that I wish to influence your actions in any way but simply as information,

I am sure you will do the BEST thing that can be done. If I had to take the responsibility and really had any SAY in the matter I would ask for an unbiassed investigation and try to have it settled in some way. But I do not have much faith in anything, so far as getting any desirable results or even JUSTICE is concerned. But it is the UNEXPECTED that happens so I am exceedingly interested in watching things HAPPEN,

I am sure there will be SOME GOOD way out of it. Although I do not know what it will be, Mr. Duncan comes in every evening and talks to Mary and tells some funny stories and does some laughing himself,

The weather is still rainy and seems as though it might keep right on indefinitely. The garden is doing well. One of the things they made a point of against Mr. Schell was that he did not make a good garden



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years some VERY VERY interesting facts would be brought out,

Mr. Duncan would not of course have anything to do with this investigation or come into it in any way, Mr. Schell could make some charges against the management or indirectly suggest some things so as to get the subject before the house, and then the thing would just do itself, Of course if they are allowed to investigate themselves it will just come out where it started, I think Mr. Schell is going to write you, and perhaps you will see a way to get the subject up in the way that will be sure to bring out all of the interesting things, For instance, the PRESIDENT has set apart this 3,000 foot strip around the Island and expended many thousands of dollars defending it in the various suits that grew out of it, It is of very great value to the community, the strip has been available for three years. During that time there have been five traps on it, I think at the present rate of 1 1/2¢ a fish the income should have been as much as \$60,000.00 not including this year but the METLAKATLA community have not Recd \$600.00 And what the Community has been supposed to receive has been juggled around in such a way as to be of no benefit to it, I do not think the arrangement for this year will be ANY better for the community,

**Fish Traps.** On the other hand the TRAPS are a very great damage to the community by depleting the supply of fish in the streams on the Island where many of the people who were not able to go to more distant places were in the habit of getting their domestic supply as well as some to sell,

**Stockholders.** In the transactions that have been made in connection with this 3,000 foot strip OFFICIALS have figured DIRECTLY in the profits, and Indirectly as stockholders in the Com. Co, and are now doing so, The city Govt has been used to insure these profits at times and at times has been IGNORED, Just as it depended upon whether one or the other would most effectually insure the putting through of the transaction, But I have no need to reiterate these things to you who are already very familiar with all of these things, I have seen in some paper that the alaska delegate (delegate) is trying to have a congressional committee appointed to visit alaska this summer and do some investigating should they happen to take a look in here some one who looks upon this 3,000 foot strip as being solely in the interest of certain, PERSONS and not at all in the interest of the Indians, might put it up to them in a way that would not be any credit to the Govt,

I know it is said that as it is now it is GOING to be for the benefit of the people, But at PRESENT every dollar that is handled goes to the Com. Co, all the wages all the lumber money &c, &c, and the Building is said to belong to the people, But if these few PERSONS have had the EXCLUSIVE handling and all the profits from the 3,000 foot strip for four years why may not they manage to have the sole benefit from the cannery when it is done if it ever is done, Any way the people will not benefit by the building this year, or next,

I talked a little with Mr. Schell and I do not think he is going to make any Fight on any one but as I understand him he will seek a vindication and try to show insufficient CAUSE for his discharge, says that only a few weeks ago Mr. Lopp wrote and promised to TRANSFER and now without any notice rather preemtorially dismisses him, (rest of line torn off) is because he did not make enough money



the thing to do is to get him to ask you to see what you can do for him which I think he will do and then advise him to make an appeal to the Sec. of the Interior and so get an investigation started that will investigate all of the doings here for the past four years and still be purely an investigation of the Govt, officials and their transactions. This could be by a Govt Inspector and perhaps a special cross questioner might be brought in for and on behalf of Mr. Schell, and thus the acts of different ones might be reviewed, &c, &c, and still Mr. Duncan or the mission would not necessarily come in, especially as he has always been investigated before and still never been allowed a hearing.

But I am breaking my resolution to not use but one sheet of paper in writing to you, but the situation is interesting and seems to me to have some possibilities, so I am trying to give you the main points. I think I will send this letter to Dr. Myers and let him read it and perhaps he will have some ideas or at least it may serve to help keep him posted. I have one objection to doing so it gives a chance for some one else to know things that it is just as well for not too many to know,

So far as you are concerned I feel that you will not make any use of ANYTHING that I write, but read it and burn it at once and perhaps just as well forget it, any way I am only trying to be EYES for you and EARS while you are trying to do something with this case,

YOUR FRIEND

(Copied from typewritten, unsigned letter.-- M.G.)



Document No. 22

Folder No. 254

June 26th 1917

17  
6-21  
H

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

MR. DUNCAN and I both RECD, letters from you today, I will answer more fully another time, I am very sorry to hear that you are not feeling well and hope you are better by this time,

I saw Sidney and told him to see Alec.

Newspaper  
I am enclosing clippings from the Ketchikan paper, such statements as these are in the paper about every week I suppose Mr. Marsden sends copies of the paper containing them to various people, hoping to make the impression that every thing is prosperous here

Canneries  
Each one as you see is purely a fabrication in some respects and still contains some FACTS, For instance the one in this weeks paper, JUNE 23rd, says, The cannery is going up fast, which is a fact, The statement adds "Together with several other large buildings", There are no other buildings going up either is there so far I have heard any talk of any other buildings,

So far as I know the Cannery statements are true, and I am inclined to think that Mr. Smiley is a good man and the Boss of the work, Mr. Smith seems like a good man and so far I have heard the behavior of the working crew has been Unobjectionable which is different from the way things seem to have been conducted last year,

Boat House  
Vessels  
The statement about DAVIS' boat house I do not dispute for I hear pounding there and other signs of activity, But I am sure I am within the truth when I say that there are not so many as a, (?) Before making this statement I visited DAVIS' boat house and found three men working including John and Roderic DAVIS I asked them how many boats they had built this year and they said one and another commenced,

I then went to the SawMill and found two men employed I then went to the Cannery Building and found five natives employed with a white boss, This makes ten men all told employed in the town, and Only one boat built besides the one built by Davis' making two boats BUILT, in the year there were also two boats repaired quite extensively,

All of this throwing of dust is to cover the lack of any thing of consequence being done, so far as assistance to the natives is concerned.

Investigation  
I feel sorry that you are exhausting your strength in conducting this investigation and hope you will take time off during the hot season and Give yourself a chance to recuperate,

One thing I infer from all this newspaper display is that there is to be a persistent effort made to show RESULTS that justify what has been done It also explains the change from Schell to Beattie as Mr. Schell does not find it easy to make a misleading showing.

H. J. Minthorn  
(Signed in ink.)



Ketlakatla, Alaska,  
July 8, 1917.

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,  
18 E. 41st St.,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

This is Sunday and a very nice sunshiny day after more than a week of rain. Everything is growing and Alaska is looking her best. There was quite a turn out at the church services.

I think some people were at home preparatory to leaving for the summer, to take up their work at the various canneries. I think they are ready to commence operations here.

It looks now as though there would not be many of the natives to work in this cannery, but it is too soon to tell yet.

I understand they have seven traps on the 5,000 foot strip. So there will not be much work for fishermen.

I think the whole family as a rule will go where the fishermen go. All of Benson's family have gone to the cannery where he is employed.

I think it is so in regard to all of the others that I know of.

There is quite a crew of white men and Japs on board the cannery ship.

The white people have rented Harry Lang's house, and are living there.

John Hudson and family are engaged at some cannery.

Alex Guthrie has a job in Mr. Strong's cannery at Betchikan.

Tom Hanbury has gone to Cape Chacon and is fishing and selling his catch to a company that has a sloop there and take the fish direct from the power boats so that he does not lose any time carrying the catch long distances as is sometimes the case.

I think prices are high this year and there is strong competition for the fish.

I have heard that the white fishermen are trying to form a combine and raise the price, and have been trying to get the natives to join.

Such an arrangement usually is so managed as to put the natives out of the game and give it all to the white men.

It was in such situations that Mr. Duncan championed the cause of the natives and helped them to protect themselves, and it is just in such a situation that Marsden plays into the hands of the white men and leaves his own people in the soup.



JUL 8 - 1917

Mr. Beattie has not put in an appearance yet, and I have not heard anything about him except what we heard at first, viz., that he was coming.

Mr. Schell left one week ago today, and I have not heard anything about him since.

Soloman was here one day last week. I quizzed him a little but he did not seem to know anything new.

Mr. Duncan said Moses told him that Solomon told him that M. had been discharged, but it may be some of the old story that we heard last winter.

Atkinson is about again, but does not seem to have anything to do.

We will probably know this week more about how things are going to work.

The Editor of the A. Paper was giving Moses a Spiel about how B. was going to RUN things when he arrived.

So it may be we will have a renewal of the old PROGRAM.

I have also heard that B. was going to have a new cottage right in front of the building where Mr. S. and the other employees lived.

Our garden is looking very fine and we have had new potatoes. There are also lettuce and radishes. I sent 6 doz. radishes and 6 doz. stalks of rhubarb to the Hospital at K. We have about 150. Cabbage plants started. But I put some spoiled salmon under them and the dogs smell it and have given some trouble by digging it up.

The barley is headed out and the wheat will be soon. I am sending you a sample of Alaska Cotton. There is abundance of it.

I have learned to use the kodak, and have taken several pictures and will send you a sample when I get some printed.

Mary is going home next Saturday, and will be back about the 1st of Sept.

Mr. Duncan comes in every day and seems to enjoy telling her about the olden times.

I can see that his memory is constantly failing. I very much wonder what it will be in a few months more.

I do not know whether I told you about the coal. I told him that you had left some coal here and he could have some of it if he wished, and I have been carrying some ever since. What you left was gone some time ago. But he does not seem to understand it so I have kept it up.

I hope you are feeling better. I think you ought not to stay in Washington during the hot weather. I have always heard it was a bad place for malaria.

From your friend,

P.S. I overlooked this at the time I wrote it so send it now.

H. J. Minthorn.



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MBT LAKATLA ALASKA March 1st 1917

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,

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Dear Sir,

Enclosed is the statement you requested, In the form of a statement addressed to the Sec. Based as it seems to me upon the facts and according to simple justice,

On the supposition that it should be granted I think the ends of justice and the best interests of all parties concerned would be met by the following arrangement: The Govt, pay the mission for all of the property taken from the Mission, Except the Pipe Line,

The pipe line to belong to the Govt, and a certain Amt of Power be supplied from it to the mission for the purpose of operating an Electric light plant and other purposes, But not to interfere with the operation of the mill,

The money to be paid to the mission from rental of the trap sites for all other property taken, and the mission to loan from the money thus Recd. certain sums to the people to enable them to construct and operate small canneries like the one now in operation by Ed, Verney, Securing the Amts by a first Mtg. on the plants,

Should the Canning business at any time cease to be profitable then the mission at its option use the funds for other purposes to assist the people in their industries, But the mission itself not to engage in business, outside of its regular mission work or some work directly connected with it as a hospital or old peoples home or a museum to which it may charge an admission fee if it sees fit,

After the mission is reimbursed for its property it shall have no further claim upon the Fisheries, or be in any way concerned with them,

The property to be paid for consists of the Cannery and all its contents destroyed by the fire, The wharf The Saw mill, The Town hall, The Girls Home, The School House, the Library Building, and reimbursement for all cost of clearing land taken by the Govt, All walks and fences and other property actually taken by the Govt or by the Town council acting under the sanction of the Govt, All furniture tools and other property taken either by the Govt, or the Town Council acting with the sanction of the Govt,

The Govt shall make all contracts for fishing priveleges and for trap sites and collect all money due for same deducting sufficient sums to pay the cost of transacting the business and paying all balances over to the mission until the mission is fully reimbursed as above,

The mission in regard to continuing its relations with the people and the Govt, shall be subject to such rules as are in force in the same in other places, But in case the mission fails to receive the consent or approval of the people to remain on the reservation after a fair hearing and full vote of the people, It shall then forfeit its remaining buildings, unless it can sell them to such an organization as may be chosen by the people to succeed it, and remove with its personal belongings from the reservation,



(3-1-17)

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that would be its due if it was permanently located on the reservation,  
and shall be protected in the possession of its property. The mission  
if these terms are agreed to agrees to arrange for its permanent  
continuance,

(Copied from an unsigned typewritten letter.--M.G.)

By D. Minthorn.



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17  
3-1

Annette Island Reservation  
Annette Island Reservation Alaska

ENCLOSURE TO *lett*  
*Indian to Indian*  
DATED 3-1-17

Object of Reservation  
oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

The act of 1891, states as follows.  
The body of lands known as Annette Islands, \*\*\*\*\* is hereby set  
apart as a reservation for \*\*\*\*\* the Metlakatla Indians, and \*\*\*\*\*  
METLAKATLANS, \*\*\*\*\* and \*\*\* such Alaskan natives as may join them  
oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

Who were the METLAKATLANS, or METLAKATLA, PEOPLE,  
The word METLAKATLANS, includes ALL of the people emigrating from  
Metlakatla B. C. to what is now Metlakatla Alaska on Annette Island  
Alaska in 1887; Principal among which were the white MISSIONARIES.  
at whose request and upon whose representations the reservation was set  
apart for the purpose of enabling them to carry out their plans for the  
help of the Indians under their charge and such other Alaska natives as  
might join them.  
oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo  
As this reservation was to continue until otherwise provided by Law and  
as the said Missionaries have and do at this present time (as far as  
they are allowed to) endeavor to carry on their work, and as they have  
both money and labor in carrying on said work and in clearing land con-  
structing buildings and purchasing machinery and other equipment for  
the better accomplishment of their work, and as they are still desirous  
of continuing said work, and as their work has been very greatly interfered  
with, by their having been forcibly deprived of their property and  
authority, so that they are no more able to assist the people to in their  
employments, or protect them from agencies, very generally used for their  
Impoverishment and demoralization, such as Dance Halls Theaters and Pool  
Rooms, &c, &c,  
And as the Hon. Secretary of the Interior is Commissioned to prescribe  
rules for the accomplishment of the act creating this reservation we  
the undersigned Friends of and believers in the efficacy of missions  
and being desirous that the U. S. should set an example of encouragement  
to the cause of missions both in our own country and in Foreign lands  
do hereby very earnestly request that the Hon Secretary of the Interior  
do give to the METLAKATLA, CHRISTIAN MISSION Every opportunity possible  
under the provisions of the act of 1891, and restore to it any and all  
property taken from it or make full compensation therefore, and assist  
in the efforts of the work of the mission to protect the people from  
influences that tend to impoverish or demoralize them, and clearly and  
explicitly define the sphere in which said Mission shall operate in  
its work and so far as is possible protect it from injurious interference



METLAKATLA ALASKA July 9 1917

Document No. 24

Folder No. 254

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

The SCHELLS have left and MR. BEATTIE'S have not arrived yet Mr. GIEL is also at KETCHIKAN so there is no one here just now but MR. SMITH the boss on the cannery building, I saw him this morning, and he said he expected the Floating cannery to arrive today, He also said that all of his Indian hands had quit but three and that he would put on white men and Japs in their places as soon as the ship arrived, He said they were not any good anyway,

The Freight ship Dispatch came in Friday and brought a lot of freight, among which was a lot of cans for the cannery, So that it begins to look as though the canning was going to commence soon,

As it now appears its effect on the COMMUNITY will be negligible, In fact it will not have so much effect as a half Doz. other Canneries where numbers of the people are employed, I think its close connection with the Com. Co alienated most of the people from the enterprise,

But it may be and that is more likely that they can do better somewhere else, (But in any consideration of this subject it will never do to lose sight of the personal equation of Mr. Duncans life devoted to their interests and the enormous influence of the effect of his religious teaching in connection with all the avocations of life,

It is quite likely that they will have to go far enough to get some of the same enterprises he had into actual operation before they will ever realize how very little they knew about it, And the nearer they come to succeeding the worse will be their failure, Like Saxman and some of the other spurious imitations, they smashed of their own weight

Mr. Duncan still comes in every night and seems to be quite cheerful for him, He seems to be thinking of his early home and says he would enjoy seeing it again, I think he will make a trip back if he lives until the war is over,

He says he is very greatly enjoying his sermons now, although he seems to get very tired, The attendance is good and the attention of the best,

METLAKATLA ALASKA July 9th 1917

In reply to yours of late date I will say I used to be slightly acquainted with Senator McNary years ago when I lived in Salem, I could get for you the same as for the other Oregon Delegates if you wished, and as he is a Republican and was appointed by Governor Wythe- come Perhaps he might get him to take an especial interest in the case,

Since Schells have left I have heard several explanations given among the Natives for their leaving, One was that they were too friendly with you, And one was that Marsden, Atkinson and Milton wanted him to take the church from Mr. Duncan and give it to them and that he told them he was not here to meddle with the Church and would not have anything to do with it,

My Brother-in-law's name is, L.J. MILES, LAWRENCE KANSAS I am enclosing a letter to him,

We are all awaiting the coming of Mr. Beattie with some Trepidation as he was such an uncompromising enemy of Mr. Duncans when he was here, Of course we do not know exactly what he will do now,



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(7-9-17.)

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Just now every one is absorbed with the coming 4th, of JULY celebration that is to come off at Ketchikan, in which Metlakatla, Pr. Rupert and other places are to take part. I expect the whole population will be gone for the next few days. A few Salmon are Jumping and so I suppose Canning operations will commence in good earnest after the 4th.

Berries are also beginning to ripen and the Childrens Harvest will commence soon. Our Garden is looking well and promises to yield a good return. We are sending some of our surplus Radishes and Rhubarb to the Hospital in Ketchikan.

Mary is still here but will go down home next week to look after things there, but will return about Aug. 1st, and be here then until School starts in Sep. Mr. Duncan comes in every day and talks very entertainingly so that she has enjoyed being here very much.

I very much hope your health is better.

FROM YOUR FRIEND

H J Minthorn

(Signed in pencil)

(Copied from a typewritten letter.--M.G.)



METLAKATLA ALASKA JULY 14th, 1917

MR. H. S. WELLCOME 18, E, 41st, STREET NEW YORK CITY N. Y.

DEAR MR, WELLCOME

I was at Ketchikan today to accompany Mary that far on her way home, where she is going to look after our affairs. And expects to return in about three weeks, and will then remain here until her school begins in Ketchikan,

Education

Moses took us over in his Dinky boat, We left here at 6,15 and arrived in Ketchikan at 8,00 She expects to go south either tonight or tomorrow on the SPOKANE, MR, SCHELLS daughter will accompany her as far as SEATTLE, Miss SCHELL is going east to attend school I did not see MR, SCHELL but heard that he was getting \$5,00 per, day, They have a nice little house in the north end of town, and seemed to be very comfortable and happy,

Beattie  
Accepts  
position  
on request  
of Lopp

I saw DR, J. L. MYERS, he said that B, L, had gone below, and had met Beattie in SEATTLE, MR, BEATTIE told him that he would leave for METLAKATLA on the 13th, and that he had refused the METLAKATLA position twice and then only accepted it upon the very urgent request of MR, LOPP and the assurance that he (MR, LOPP) believed he should take it from a sense of DUTY,

(Myers)

Resignations

DR, B, L, had heard from some member of the PRESBYTERIAN board that MR, MARSDEN had tendered his resignation to the board to take effect in OCT, and that he was to be the assistant PROF, in the METLAKATLA school, This the DR, mentioned to MR BEATTIE who said that he had not heard of it, Any way it seems reasonably sure that MR, MARSDEN is to be out of the employ of the board,

Moses and I left for home at 12, M but by the time we got to the first trap it was blowing so hard that we had to stop there for four hours when the wind having gone down we went on home arriving about 6,00 P, M,

Illness of  
M. Hewson

MOSES is not well, had a Hemorrhage this week, and looks badly, Sam, Campbell has been quite sick but is a little better,

Fisheries  
Canneries

The run of SALMON is very light so far and prices high, I went through the FLOATING CANNERY here, It is an old sailing vessel botched up into a very old fashioned CANNERY, Every thing looks dirty and old and out of date, But I think Mr, SMILEY is trying to do something for the Community here and so far as I can see the employees he has sent here are a well behaved lot, And I think are in every way doing as well as could be expected, under the circumstances,

Mr, Duncan is averaging high, Seems cheerful and anxious to please and I think really enjoys seeing the Cannery going ahead and has remarked several times that he could see very plainly that HE could not undertake such things now, He seems to be on good terms with all the people that are employed,

His MEMORY is very visibly failing, He asked me if I knew about his



(7-14-17.)

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although it is not very good economy to dig them while they are so small,

The garden looks very good. The Cabbages are growing very fine now although it was very difficult to get them started. The Barley is out in head, and the Wheat will be also in a few days. I wish we could send some samples of the Wheat, Barley, and Oats, to the Agricultural Department. But the really greatest success is the Clover. Some that I sowed last spring is more than 3 in. high now. The clover that I sowed in the wild Uncultivated and Mossy land has made a good stand and bids fair to make good pasture next year.

We have a very fine display of Flowers especially Nasturtiums and Dahlias. I think I will try taking some Snap Shots of them and send them to you. I think I did not tell you that I have learned to use a KODAK. I hope you are not trying to stay in WASHINGTON through the hot weather,

I do not think I told you that WILLIE BAINS got three years at McNeills Island for taking a girl into one of those ROOMING HOUSES in KETCHIKAN. I look upon it as the natural sequence of maintaining the DANCE HALLS here

I am about to break my rule not to write more than two pages I will sign myself

YOUR FRIEND

H J Minthorn

(Signed in pencil)

(Copied from a typewritten letter.--M.G.)



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Folder No. 254

Alleghany Inn,  
Goazen, Va.,  
July 21, 1917.

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H

Mr. E. J. Minthorn,

Metlakatla, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Minthorn:

I have now got away from Washington and am down in a very quiet, healthful and restful place, where I am hoping to gain strength and at the same time be able to make progress in the good work. It is best not to comment on matters in Washington at the present time, but there is no reason to be dissatisfied with the outlook so far as I can judge. In this letter I shall endeavor to deal with special points raised in your many interesting letters of the last few weeks.

RE keeping me informed as to the situation:

I can not tell you how deeply I appreciate all the trouble you have taken to keep me informed, and how valuable this information will be to me in the work, and I earnestly hope that you will have the goodness and patience to continue to give me such a lot of important details in respect to the situation. There is nothing that you have written but what has real importance, however small the items may appear in your sight, and if I do not mention them specifically in writing to you, please do not think that I fail to appreciate them or that they are wasted. If I do not mention them you can take it as meaning that I have duly noted them all, carefully preserving them for reference.

MR. DUNCAN'S condition:

I am very glad to learn that Mr. Duncan is so cheerful and serene and keeping up his work with his usual whole-hearted zeal. The more he concentrates and devotes himself to his Bible work and his services and classes and work with the people, the more God will give him strength and grace to continue to face his great trials. Has John Hudson yet done anything in regard to a house to live in nearby Mr. Duncan, and if not, what are the prospects of his carrying out this idea?

IN REGARD to the garden, etc.:

I am delighted at your great success and the effect must be entirely to the good, not only for the appearance of the place, but for the splendid example it is to the people, and I hope you will keep the idea well before them that they ought to feel this example. I consider this gardening work will also be very helpful in its influence on what I hope to do. Please let me know when the funds which I left you for these purposes runs short and I will send you a remittance. Please also keep the subject of Joel Bain's house in view, and if, when he comes to build, you and Mr. Duncan think it would be wise, I shall be pleased to do



---E. J. M.

HANBURY and others--Moral conditions:

I hope you will keep in close touch with Hanbury and others of the more reliable and dependable, and keep them up to their sense of right and duty to maintain the moral status and the general good of the community.

CAPTAIN and Mrs. Quillan:

I am sorry to have missed seeing Captain and Mrs. Quillan when they called at Metlakatla.

ADOLPHUS and others:

Please keep me well informed as to how Adolphus and others of the uncertain ones<sup>new</sup> coming on, and whether they are really and seriously turning over a new leaf and intend to go straight in the future.

ARTICLE in Ketchikan paper:

If possible, please try and get me a copy of the crafty article in the Ketchikan paper, appearing to be an interview with John Davis but which you say John Davis has since repudiated, and which you suggest was written by Marsden. You referred to it in your letter of the 12th of May. I want to be sure to get every such example of Marsden's craft and cunning that appears, as they illustrate so well his methods of intrigue.

EXPERIMENTS--Introduction of clover:

The experiments you have carried out appear to be of a very practical nature and they ought to be valuable to the people who can be induced to cultivate the soil, and if it is practicable, the introduction of clover, as you mention in your letter of May 28th, will be extremely desirable. You mention in that letter something about Benjamin Haldane having to pay a fine of \$400.00. I would like to know all about this.

MOSES HEWSON:

Recently I received a very gloomy letter from Moses Hewson, speaking very hopelessly about the future, especially on account of his wife's health. I would like to know just what the real state of her health is now, and if her case is likely to be fatal at an early date. I would like also to know if anything is being done, or what is being done, in regard to the petitioning for the renewal of his appointment as postmaster.

MISSIONARY to take up Mr. Duncan's work:

Regarding a missionary to take up Mr. Duncan's work, I have noted your ideas and suggestions and will give them very careful consideration. I shall not fail to make every effort to try and get in touch with some suitable man. Your suggestion that a new man should first get a good grip on the language is certainly a most desirable one, as he would otherwise be greatly handicapped in the beginning.



## ADOLPHUS CALVERT--TSHINSHEAN MEDICINAL PLANTS:

I think it is very desirable for you to keep in close touch with Adolphus Calvert and encourage him to go on the straight path, and at the same time I shall be very glad if you will get him to give you the names and full particulars and good specimens of the various Tshinshean medicinal plants and of their alleged merits, whether they are real or imaginary. It would be very interesting to have such a record and I shall greatly value it.

RUPTURE ~~of~~ Mr. Duncan's legs:

I wish you would tell me what you think about this and the fitting or pressure about his ankles. What significance do you attach to it?

## YOUR DAUGHTER:

It must be a great pleasure to you and Mr. Duncan to have your daughter there, and even when she goes to live at Ketchikan she will be so near that she can often come over, and all this will tend to brighten your lives and I am sure be a pleasure to her.

## SUPPLY OF MEDICINE:

When it gets on towards winter, if you have not adequate supplies of medicine, please send me a list of your wants and advise me generally in regard to it and I will make suitable provision.

## REGARDING Mr. Schell's leaving:

This is very regrettable, but the treatment he has received, ~~is~~ is probably what he would have every reason to expect because he tried to carry out his duties conscientiously and not lend himself to intrigues. In the end I do not think that he or any other man will be the worse off for going straight; and as to the others concerned, I have too much faith in the providence of God to believe that they will prosper or succeed in doubtful methods. It is a long road that has no turnings. The change that this implies renders your presence all the more indispensable, as I am sure your influence for harmony will be most valuable, and your very presence will prevent, certainly in a measure, overt acts on the part of some of the trouble makers. I am glad that Mr. Schell has got another appointment for the present, and I hope you will use your influence with the principal people in Ketchikan to help him get suitable employment. If you see him, please make all the excuses you can for me for not yet having answered his letter, as I have been far from well; but please tell him that I will write to him very soon, and also that I greatly regret his leaving. Convey to him and Mrs. Schell my best regards. In the new situation it is particularly desirable for you to be alert and to learn all you can of the plans and projects in all directions.



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SILAS BOOTH'S DISCHARGE FROM CANNERY:

I would like for you to get confirmation, if possible, of the statement that Silas Booth was discharged from the work on the cannery building because he did not have stock in the company; also, if you can, I would like you to obtain through Langley's list of the present shareholders of the commercial company. I understand it is now alleged that they have shared to the amount of \$61,000.00 subscribed.

MR. SCHELL:

*Tell you much about these phantasies*  
I suggest that it would be a good thing for you to keep in touch with Mr. Schell and keep me well informed about that steps he proposes to take, and it is quite probable he will open himself up much more freely to you in conversation than he would care to in a letter to me. I would like to know as much as possible about the situation and what he is likely to do; also you may intimate to him that if there is anything I can properly do for him, you know it will give me pleasure, and also that you know I hold him and his family in high regard.

RE MR. SCHELL'S SUCCESSOR:

I am inclined to think that one reason why a certain man has been selected to succeed Mr. Schell is that it is realized that the people have since Mr. J's departure been acting for themselves, and that Mr. Schell has been attempting to lead them by the nose or to force issues; also that certain trouble makers now appear to stand very little chance of remaining in office at the next election on account of their questionable conduct in office, and apparently it is believed that the successor to Mr. Schell is, from his past record, capable of selecting the most amenable candidates and of influencing the election and controlling matters so that the council will do his bidding.

MR. DUNCAN'S POLICY OF NON-INTERVENTION:

I consider that Mr. Duncan's policy, which he has pursued throughout, of non-intervention in the political features, and to keep aloof from the trouble makers, both white and native, is the proper policy for him to continue to pursue. It is possible that Mr. E. or Mr. B. may try to force some issue or create some incident with him, but I hope Mr. Duncan will remain steadfast in avoiding any clash. Any aggressive actions are likely to react against whoever is the aggressor. I am afraid that we shall not be able to place much reliance on the good faith of any of these white trouble makers, and there is no doubt that they are on the lookout to find



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18--11. J. 1.

some excuse to cause trouble and gain their ends.

REGARDING SENATOR McNARY:

At the right time, when I may need his assistance and the assistance of the other Oregon senators, I will write you to ask the Governor to do as he has done in respect to the members of congress from Oregon.

MR. L. G. MILES OF LAWRENCE, KANSAS:

I have just found amongst my papers the letter of introduction you kindly gave me to your brother-in-law, and a little later on I will write to him and try to arrange for an appointment to meet him when he comes east or I go west, as I feel sure his advice on certain matters will be of great help to us, owing to his knowledge and experience in allied cases.

MARSDEN:

The more he intrigues and attempts crafty maneuvers, the more certain he is to produce evidence against himself, which should result in the end in exposing his whole line of conduct.

EVENINGS AT THE GUEST HOUSE:

I should like very much to drop in some evening when Mr. Duncan and your daughter and yourself are there like a little family circle. I am sure these evenings must be full of good cheer to all of you. I wish you all three God's best blessings.

I remain

Ever sincerely your friend,



P. S. Please give my greetings and regards to our Metlakatla friends.



Document No. 26

Folder No. 257

Memorandum.

Dr. Winthorn:

I wish you would ask Mr. Duncan, at some suitable and convenient moment, if there was ever any certificate of occupation made out to Mr. Duncan in respect to the land which he occupied with his buildings, such as his store and the cannery and his residence, etc., like those made for the Tshimsheans when they occupied their residential lots; or was there any other special form of record or certificate of occupation executed by Mr. Duncan in regard to the land which was occupied by him personally and his industries, etc. You may not be able to work this out entirely at one interview, but I would like you to very carefully ascertain what was done in this direction, because there may be some technical point in respect to this as affecting the reservation questions; although without any question of certificate, of course, he was entitled to a squatter's right by occupation four years before the reservation act was passed as affecting the Island. You will of course approach this very tactfully and as a query from yourself and not as if your questions were based on an inquiry from me.

*Enclosure  
to 1st 17  
W. H. Moore to  
Winthorn*



Document No. 26

Folder No 254

Memoranda.

RE MR. SCHELL'S CASE.

There is a difficulty about taking any very active steps at this moment in Mr. Schell's case on account of the tremendous war pressure on every official in Washington, but the probabilities are that within a few months this pressure will be considerably lessened. I think you should indicate *your belief* that the Secretary himself and those who stand at the head of the Government, in supreme authority, could not approve of the manner he has been treated by certain parties, and that they certainly must, and would, respect his attitude and his efforts to promote harmony and the best interests of the natives, morally and materially, and recognize that in doing so he was best serving the interests of the Government.

You might suggest to Mr. Schell that if he feels disposed to do it, he might write out a very full and complete statement of matters covered by his experience and his knowledge of the condition of affairs as he has found it, and of his aims and earnest endeavors to do what was best to recover lost ground, and generally giving a complete account of his stewardship and the difficulties which he encountered at every step, the nature of these difficulties and the course of procedure of the persons who placed these obstacles in his way, their failure to support him in his efforts to promote the uplift of the people, and all other matters that would properly have bearing upon the case. He might also state whatever he knows of the improper acts of certain men during the last four years and quote any documentary or other evidence he has to sustain his statements. Of course such a statement as this should be treated as confidential if and so long as he desired that it should be so treated.

You might suggest that if he sent me a copy of this statement I might be able to help him in some way.

*Enclosure to  
7-21-17  
Memorandum to Mr. Schell*



Document No. 26

Foider No. 254

Alleghany Inn,  
Goshen, Va.,  
July 21, 1917.

Dr. E. J. Minthorn,

Netlakaitla, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Minthorn:

RE SEPARATING PARAGRAPHS OF LETTERS:

It will greatly facilitate my study and reference to your most interesting letters, every one of which I greatly value, if you will separate the paragraphs, ~~and~~ if you will start each paragraph as I have started this one, and to type only on one side of the paper; also if you will be certain to date each letter.

SUPPLY OF PAPER:

I will keep you well supplied with paper. If at any time you ~~are~~ short, please purchase paper at Metonikan at my expense. I am going to send you some paper of the letter correspondence size and of the note size, by post, for the present. I hope you will not mind my asking you to take this trouble, because it will greatly facilitate my use of your excellent notes.

Yours sincerely,

*E. J. Minthorn*



Document No 27

Folder No 254

KETCHIKAN ALASKA July 24 1917

MR. H. S. WELLCOME 18, E. 41st, STREET NEW YORK CITY N. Y.

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

Another week has gone, and everything is going on as usual, Mr. Beattie has not arrived yet although Dr. Myers said he saw him in Seattle and he said he would leave for Alaska on the 13th,

Fish are coming in very slowly I was at the Cannery today when the Fish Scow came in and there were only 600. They get fish from two traps and the scow comes once each day from each of them. I have a great curiosity to know how they will come out on their contract if there are not fish enough at 1¢ each to come to enough to pay the expense they have incurred, which will certainly amount to at least as much as \$6,000.00

Mr. Geil is on hand to count the fish. I think there are 5 Japs and 6 white men. And for an hour or so each day while they are putting up the fish there are about 15 or 20 women and girls. There are also two Indian men and two Indian boys. Atkinson seems to be some kind of a boss. I see him going from one place to another, some of the time at the Mill and some of the time at the Cannery he seems also to be slightly puffed up.

I was going to set out some Cabbage plants today, and wanted to get some lime out of that old Warehouse to put on the ground around the plants. I went to Mr. Geil to see about getting the key as I always got it of him before, but he said that ATKINSON had it. I then hunted up ATKINSON and he said he would open it for me and so he did after a long wait, which he explained by saying that he was so busy. He waited until I got the lime and then locked the door. I think I am inclined to put too much stress on LITTLE THINGS. But Mr. GEIL was so particular to say that the MAYOR had the key, that I could not help wondering if they were trying to GET FROM UNDER and SHUFFLE THE BUSINESS OFF ON TO THE MAYOR AND THE PEOPLE.

Any way I have a great CURIOSITY to see how they will go about it to explain their taking all the property without any legal process, or even any statement from the Secretary or Dr. Claxton or any OLD THING. Except Jones' and Beatties' MAILED FISTS.

I think if Mr. Strong of Ketchikan could as well as not it would be a good plan to keep Mr. Schell in Ketchikan. Mr. Schell I think is working now for Mr. Strong and if he is giving satisfaction and he could as well as not keep him on I think it would be a good thing to do.

I have heard of some <sup>one</sup> wanting to fish on the 3,000 foot strip around the island (a native) and Mr. Geil or Atkinson told them that no one could fish on the Reserve unless they sold the fish to the cannery here.

They then went to Ketchikan to see Mr. Schell (or saw him while there on some other business) and Mr. Schell told them that they could fish on the Reserve and sell the fish where they pleased. I saw the letter that Mr. Lopp wrote to Mr. Schell and I can hardly understand the discourteous language unless Mr. Lopp wanted to have Mr. Schell leave ALASKA and some remarks made by Schells make me think that they understood it so also, and that they wanted to stay on that account.

I think Mr. Schell is a good worker and Mr. Strong would



and being as he would naturally be, in a position to advise them occasionally, would be a benefit to them. Especially as they have certainly taken a lot of bad advice from some of the people who ought to have done better by them. I have not been able to learn anything about Mr. Ballister. Nearly all the people are away now except the few that I have mentioned.

Tom Hambury's wife has rented their house to the Cannery people and is living with Tom's mother. Tom is still out at Cape Chacon so I suppose he is doing well, or he would be coming in. Moses is preparing to fish again this season at the same place where he fished last year, and I think intends to sell his fish to the Cold Storage Plant, in Ketchikan. He and his wife are both looking badly.

We are having Potatoes now all the time, also plenty of Lettuce, Radishes and Rhubarb. We have abundance of Rutabagas, Turnips, and Carrots coming on.

I find that I am going to break over my rule again to not write more than two pages, but it seems to me that by this time the general character and effect of what the Govt. is undertaking to do here is fairly apparent. For instance take the Cannery, I think from what I see that perhaps Mr. Smiley as a contractor is as good and suitable a person as could ever be hoped to get, yet he only made one short visit here in the spring, and is not expected to be here again before next spring again. So that no effective help can be expected from him for the people here.

Of the people who are representing him here I think they are as such people go a superior lot, and it would hardly be expected that taking one year with another they would AVERAGE as well as this lot. Now as to the Beneficial effect upon the people and community, as I said only four men are employed and not one of these is working in a place of responsibility or where he will LEARN anything that will be of any Advantage to him or the COMMUNITY or in any way tend toward putting either the Individual or the COMMUNITY in the way of business responsibility or of managing their own affairs.

And not one of the persons employed is a person of any INITIATIVE or that is in any way proficient in the work of CANNING. And there are MANY such people in the community, people who are at this time actually operating very important departments in large canneries.

As for the financial part of the business the natives have not neither have they had anything to do with it and were not even CONSULTED about it not even the COUNCIL with the exception of Marsden and Atkinson, and the actual business seems to be done by Mr. Geil. And I do not think he has any business experience or knowledge or even any natural adaptation for BUSINESS.

Yet he represents an Investment by the U. S. Govt. of many thousands of dollars in an Untried experiment in a business, that is purely a speculation as it does not have any important relation to either the MISSION or SCHOOL work, at this place. It is also the establishment of a precedent that has been most determinedly opposed by the vast majority of the representatives of the people in the Govt. It is an experiment that does not stand for any valuable principle and I do not think stands a ghost of a chance of being a financial success. And does stand a multitude of chances of bringing the Govt into various kinds of responsibility and causing Unfavorable and embarrassing criticism, and of hindering the legitimate SCHOOL and other work.



cally unlimited, and it was known ~~that~~ ~~it~~ WAS BOUGHT THAT IT WOULD NOT BEAR THE PRESSURE OF THE WHOLE FALL, and that there would have to be a reservoir a little more than half way up in order to avoid bursting the pipe so that nearly one half of the power is lost and there is no remedy for it except to buy new pipe for the whole length of the distance from the mill to the lake. What I have said about the Natives not being employed in the cannery in positions where they could learn something and so be in the way of some time operating it themselves does not apply to the mill for that is wholly operated by natives but being PRACTICALLY a FAILURE on account of lack of POWER IT is not of any benefit to either the natives or anyone else,

So this sums up what I am trying to say that the Govt, is engaged in BUSINESS here Not a legitimate Governmental function but MONOPOLISING CANNING and MILLING not in the way of HELPING the people but in ACTUAL COMPETITION with them, as they not only can but have for years done these things BETTER than they are now being done, There are THREE stores in the town that are suffering from the competition of the Govt, store which is subsidised by advantages given it through the ability to control patronage and having a manager and bookkeeper paid for doing something else.

A small Cannery started by a NATIVE has been frozen out by the MONOPOLY of the Govt, cannery over the FISHERIES, &c, &c,

Not only so but this cannery is in Competition with other CANNERIES operated by white men, The Govt in its official capacity is constantly in various ways dealing with these CANNERIES and enforcing laws in regulation them, So that on account of this cannery it happens that the Govt is actually SUBSIDISING one white CANNERY MAN as against other white CANNERY MEN in the same locality I know that it will be said that it is the METLAKATLA COMMUNITY that the GOVT is acting for but I think I have shown that the COMMUNITY is not having anything to do with the things that are being done, But farther the COMMUNITY is actually SUFFERING from the acts of the Govt, If the proceeds of the 3,000 foot reservation went to the support of the school or for a BOARDING DEPT, or something that would uniformly benefit the COMMUNITY instead of to the few Stockholders in the Govt store then there would be some show of a REASON for its having been made, And that it is of great value and COULD be made general no one will dispute also that the Natives NEED some advantages of such a nature in a country where they have no rights that a white man is bound to respect cannot be disputed,

What is wanted here is to let the fishing privileges to the best bidder and use the proceeds to add a boarding Dept, to the school so as to make it more efficient and valuable to the natives of S. E. Alaska,

Pipe Line: Put in another pipe line of sufficient power to run the mill and use the one now here for running small plants among the people of the village who wish to engage in various small manufacturing enterprises and for Electric light and heat and power for the school &c, also out of the proceeds of the rental of the fisheries the Mission should be paid for the property taken from it and the sums so provided used to support an Old Peoples home and a small hospital, And let the people manage the business themselves,

Moses told me that he had written to the Alaska (Alaska) Delegate that the people here wanted the Reservation abolished, I think he is wrong about that, The reservation is a needed protection to the people against the encroachments of the white people, and should be retained.



(7-21-17)

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Folder No. 254

Will excuse this long letter if you ever get this far in reading it,  
and burn it as soon as you have read it,

Your Friend  
W J Winthorn

(Signed in pencil)

I did not say anything in the plan for the place about a Missionary,  
Because Mr. Duncan has provided for that, and I hope you are succeeding  
in your search for the right person and that he will be here very soon,  
and get started to acquire a knowledge of the language and get hold of  
the work. I do not consider that we can hardly think of the work here  
as a mission until that is done. I think Mr. Duncan is more in the  
right attitude of mind now for such a step than at any time since I  
have known him.

Tuesday ---- I commenced this three days ago, ---- No word from B, yet  
I see from the Ketchikan paper that CAPT. PRATT is to visit at Ketchikan  
for three weeks with Mr. Marsden and other of the former Carlisle stu-  
dents, ---- I have also seen by the same paper that reports from various  
parts of Alaska state that the supply of Salmon is VERY VERY short this  
season so far. The same is true here so far. Almost none for the past  
three days. If you know what effect it would have for the Pack to be  
say only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of enough to pay for the expense incurred here and it is not  
a subject for the CENSOR I would like to know.

(Copied from a typewritten letter.--M.G.)



(COPY)

Document No. 28

Folder No. 254

Metlakatla, Alaska, July 26, 1917.

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

Rainy and stormy, but good fish weather. They seem to know that when it rains there will be better navigating the small streams up which they have to go to spawn.

Canneries

The cannery has been doing better yesterday and today.

Fisheries

Moses caught 80 sock-eyes night before last in the mouth of the small stream across the bay, and he has gone to Ketchikan to sell them at the Cold Storage plant. At the present prices he expected to get \$25.00 for them.

It has been so stormy that he has not gotten back yet. There were six more white men put on at the cannery yesterday, but no more natives. And there are, I think, the same number of women and girls at work (about 25.)

I counted the cases of canned salmon yesterday and there were 616, or about twice as many as last week, but I think next week will show a large increase.

Mr. Beattie has not arrived yet, and I have not heard any more about his coming.

Pratt's  
visit

Major Pratt was here and stayed over one night with Mr. Marsden.

He called on Mr. Duncan.

Some one said he called at my door, but I was in the garden and did not see him. When I learned of his having called I went to Mr. Marsden's to see him, but he had left and I did not get to see him. Mr. Duncan is working in the store every day with Eli Tait to help.



H.S.W.

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They make a strong team. They are overhauling the goods and culling out those that are damaged.

Mr. Geil and Mayor Atkinson have their hands full now that the cannery is doing more.

Canneries The new cannery building is nearly done and makes a fine appearance, and is a good building.

Fish Traps The U. S. Fish Commissioner was here yesterday; he was on a tour of inspection, more especially to locate and inspect the traps.

He said there had been some complaint about the traps from some one. He said there were five traps around the Island.

It is the opinion of many that the traps will soon deplete the fish supply so that there will not be enough fish to supply any of the canneries.

Two steamers called in yesterday, one to land Mr. Beattie and one with freight for the cannery. Registered letter received today. Will answer next week.

July 28th SATURDAY, JULY 28th. Moses returned and brought some mail, in which was a letter for Mr. Duncan from you. The contents encouraged Mr. Duncan very much. I was glad of what you said about the garden, as it will help to reconcile him to it, although he has not said much about it since we have begun to have potatoes and other things out of it.

Agriculture Only a short time ago he paid 50 cents for 4# of potatoes, Since July 8th we have had potatoes every day out of the garden, and there is a very encouraging prospect of having plenty from now on and some to spare.

We have also 250 cabbages, plenty of carrots, turnips, ruta-bagas, beets, radishes and lettuce besides the berries and rhubarb.



H.S.W.

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Aug 25/17

We have also a very fine display of flowers.

The

A letter was sent out here from the Government, urging that much gardening be done; so far as the Government employes here are concerned, they only made a very little and that is entirely neglected now that Mr. Schell has left.

Moses stopped at Wards Cove and put out his seine last night and caught 50 cohoes, so that he has done quite well this week.

Tom Hanbury got home last night. He said he was too late for the fishing season on the outside where he went six weeks ago, but he got in two weeks of the run and made \$800.00 in the two weeks. The highest he made in one day was \$95.00. He said some had made as high as \$200.00 a day and some of those who got there early and fished through the whole season made as much as \$2,000.00.

He said there were 200 power boats trolling, and that there were large scows and ships anchored right on the fishing grounds where they sold their fish and got the money when the fish were delivered.

After the Run was over he went on north as far as Sitka looking for other opportunities, but found nothing.

So he came home and is just in time for the run here; although it bids fair to be small, which may be due in part to so many fish having been taken outside. Tom had not heard any news since he left home six weeks ago; had not heard about Russia and came up for a paper the first thing.

But I think he is going to write you about his trip and other things.

I was glad to hear that you had left Washington for a more agreeable and healthy place.

From Your Friend.



H. S. W.

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P. S. Mr. Beattie arrived yesterday and has moved his family into the place vacated by Mr. Schell.

Gen'l. Pratt called. He said he would be here for one week yet and was staying with Carsden.

Tom has left in quest of another job.

Moses made another haul across the bay. Fish are more plentiful at the cannery, as many as 10,000 per day.



Document No. 29

Folder No. 254

Metlakatla, Alaska, (About July 30, 1917)

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

H

17  
7-30

JUL 30 / 17

I received yours of late date, making some inquiries etc., which I will take time to answer soon; also will send the statement of the account, although it is not complete yet. I have been busy with the garden, but will not have so much to do from this time on. Things in the garden are looking well and the weather is favorable. We are having plenty of potatoes, radishes, lettuce, rhubarb and berries. No one else has had any new potatoes yet and will not have any yet for two or three weeks. The ones we are having are all from one row that I planted the potatoes in small tar paper boxes, one in each box and put these large sash over them out where the sun could shine on them and yet kept them from the cold nights and cold winds. They came up and grew well under the glass, and then when it began to get a little warm I put them out in a row in the garden. All of the soil in the boxes was matted together with the potato roots so it did not disturb them to put them out and they went right on growing, and so were a month ahead of any other potatoes in the village. I think we might have had them two or three weeks sooner if we had commenced sooner. There is no patent on this process and it might serve a good purpose some time in case of food shortage. And there is plenty of chance for food shortage the way the food is being sent to the bottom of the sea.

Newspapers discouraging: We got papers today, the first for two weeks. Such news as they contained did not sound very encouraging, at least not for an early termination of the war.

Very Sincerely,  
I have not seen any demonstrations yet on



They occupied the kitchen of the Guest House and got their lunch and dinner on the stove there as the Mail Boat was late. I look for Mary back the first of next week. She went down home to look after things there. She writes me that it is very dry there. The papers report the same about other parts of Oregon and estimate quite a shortage of crops on that account. It is quite alarming when the same paper reports more vessels sunk. Of course there is no danger of any one suffering from hunger here, but if things continue as they seem to be tending now there is a very great probability of people in some parts of the world actually suffering from lack of food. My daughter writes from India that there is a probability of a shortage there on account of too much rain.

Garden: I am glad that we made the garden as it is in line with what every one should have done, and I think shows that the Mission paid heed to the warnings of the Government to make every possible effort to guard against a food shortage. While a force of Government employes several times as large have not produced 1-20th as much as the mission has, I thought I would not fail in any particular of doing what every one would wish had been done if there should be a shortage of food, so I have planted late cabbages, carrots, turnips and ruta-bagas between the rows of early crops so that after the early crops are harvested the late ones will come on and make something. Of course I know that all this trouble will not really do any one much good, but in a time like this I think we owe something to the country on the score of loyalty and patriotism, and that in this particular case it could not be shown better than by making the best possible effort to guard against the threatened food shortage.

Mr. Wellcome's assistance: I am making all this long explanation



(COPY)

Document No. 29

Folder No. 254

Metlakatla, Alaska, Aug. 1, 1917.

Mr. E. S. Wellcome,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

Enclosed please find my statement of my account. I overran the amount, but do not expect you to make it up. Items 17 and 20 are for ~~Plants~~ freight on some plants that I had sent from home. Among them were 40 Loganberry and Hymilaya Blackberries, 55 Dahlias, all but two of which are growing, some Cranberries, Rhododendrons, Fuchias, Crysanthemums, Huneysuckle, Calla, and other things. I have explained in other letters why I expended the money in this way. I sowed the grass seed in various places, where I thought it would give the best opportunity of judging of the possibility of getting grass to take in this soil without putting it in a state of cultivation. It is such an enormous expense to clear Alaska land that it would be of very great value to be able to get a stand of tame grass without clearing the land. The seed I have sown has taken well, but it will be some time before it will be positively known how valuable it will be.

Grass Seed: The most interesting question is whether grass seed will grow on the mossy land without doing anything but sow the seed. I sowed some White Clover seed on average moss covered land without anything having been done to the land, 10 years ago when I was here. It took to some extent and is still growing. I think further experiments in this line would be very important and useful.

Goats: Also, if possible, it would be well worth while to have some Goats and put them on a piece of fenced land and sow the grass seed and see if the tramping of the goats would help to get the grass to take. The goats in the mean time living on the brushing and



Mohair and Hides: The mohair would also be valuable, and the hides tanned with the hair on would make good rugs.

Pasture: If the land could be gotten into tame grass in this way it would then be valuable for pasture and then in a short time it would be in a much more favorable condition for clearing. And even without clearing probably many kinds of Berrybushes could be set out on it and thus add to the resources of the people. I am sending you one stalk of wheat, oats and barley to show you what a growth it made. This bunch marked No. 1 had lime applied to the soil when it was planted. In fact the object of planting this grain was to test the effect of lime on the growth of plants as it was found by testing the soil with litmus paper that it was very acid. The bunch marked No. 2 was planted without any lime, and the stalks in these bunches, Nos. 1 and 2, are average stalks of each planting, and thus show the effect of lime on the growth of plants in this kind of soil. The effect is not quite so apparent on potatoes as on this grain. Lime can be had here by burning shells. But probably other substances would be found to work just as well. Perhaps there is some Alkalinity about sea weed that makes it a good fertilizer for this soil. I am sending you a sample of the plant that the people say makes the hair grow. They say it is very poisonous. I think it has some merit for purpose for which they use it, and it might have some other valuable qualities.

Fiber: I am also sending you some fiber from a plant that the natives call Indian Celery. This fiber seems very strong, and as there is a demand for some kind of fiber to make binding twine it would be a good thing to find something.

Book on Fiber&c: If you know of any book that would help one to



place some samples where they would give people some idea of the possibilities of Alaska. But I suppose if they keep on killing people as they are now there will not be any need of people going to such a country as this.

Homecoming of people: Soon now the people will begin to come home and I will have all I can do with them. What I would like to do is to fix up the office some.

Your friend,

(Signed) H. J. Minthorn.

While I am on this subject I ought to say that there is not much to do here in the summer and I feel ashamed to stay here and do nothing, especially as Mr. Duncan is himself a great worker. As long as I have been here I have not known him to miss an appointment. Three sermons a week, for all of which he always makes preparation, and the teachers' meeting and the Juvenile S. S., he has faithfully attended to, in all kinds of weather, even Alaska weather, which is sometimes very stormy. Then he visits the sick and carries bread and other things to the old and poor, constantly. Then every one in trouble comes to him; in fact, there is no one else to go to. So I have been glad to have something to do. But there is another reason:

Incident Permitted of the Lord: I look upon the situation here now as an incident permitted of the Lord for some wise reason, not now apparent, but certain to appear in due time, but while it is existing it is a time of great trial. But when the Lord sees the trial has had its intended effect there will be a new and better day



some way. The opportunities for employment are not so good for the people as they once were and some time in the near future the people will have to do more with the land than they have in the past, and it will be better for them in many ways.

Circumstances making people Self-reliant: I can see that the stress of the present circumstances has been a help to many of the people, by making them more self-reliant. Men like Tom Hanbury and John Hudson and Aleck, are all doing much better than they would to have some one like Mr. Duncan to depend upon as most of them once did.

It was all right when they were going through the stage of getting education and experience, but that was not to last always, and now all of them that will not kiss Marsden's toe have to get out and make a way and a place for themselves. Not one person of any force of character is hanging around here now and many of them are doing themselves credit. This process will in the course of time develop a class of people who will be able to really do something with this situation themselves. What is needed here now is a young man of good judgment and character to take Mr. Duncan's place. I think he is ready for it too much more than he ever was before up to this time. And I am glad that you are on the lookout for such a person. Should you be able to establish the right of the Mission to the site here, on account of the squatter's right, and the Mission would have the Mission premises, not subject to control of the Council I think it would be an unique situation and full of good possibilities. In fact, I think I see how it would combine all the advantages of the Reservation for the people with all the advantages of untrammelled ownership for the Mission.

AUG 4



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Mr. B. surveying: Mr. B. and another man were doing some surveying between the Guest House and the old store (Co. Store) building this morning. From their actions I would judge they were planning to put a walk across in another place.

At Cannery: There were 20 white men employed at the cannery today, but 8 of them struck and left tonight.

Atkinson: Mr. Duncan says that Atkinson sent his wife to Mrs. Hall to tell her that the white boss did not want her any longer. Then when her husband came home he went to the white boss and asked him why Mrs. Hall had been discharged, and he said he did not know anything about it and had nothing to do with it.

Aleck was over from Ketchikan on Sunday. Mrs. Simon Dalton died at some cannery and they came over to bury her.

Bookkeeper: He says Mrs. Strong has put Mr. Schell on as bookkeeper and he is giving good satisfaction. He also said that several of the people from here were working for Mr. Strong and were getting 60¢ an hour. His oldest boy has a job in the sawmill at Ketchikan at \$3.50 a day and two of the younger children were working in the cannery and getting 30¢ an hour.

He said he saw John Hudson and he said they caught 18,000 fish last week which would bring over \$900.00.

Traps and Cannery: I told Aleck that it was being demonstrated that the 3,000 foot strip and the traps and cannery were valuable assets and they belonged to the people here and to be sure and be here at election time and take such action as would make the property of the most value to the whole community and not have it manipulated for the benefit of a few persons. I showed him the garden and the flowers, etc. The paint on the cupulo and the new paint on the front steps and the porch floor helps to make things look neat.



with Atkinson over them it would be a question of pleasing HIM and to please him they would have to VOTE for him at the election.

Employment of Natives: There is one very serious defect in the whole scheme especially in Mr. Duncan's estimation and that is that it is doing very little for the natives. It does not fulfill the object of such an industry, viz., to give employment to the natives and keep them at home. It is simply a white man's speculation. But it has possibilities and perhaps some time it will get into hands even under Government management and more will be realized out of it.

The present way of canning, by having more of the processes done by machinery, gives more uniform results, and the risk is not so great.

New Cannery in Ketchikan: Mr. Strong and Mr. Hunt have a new cannery in Ketchikan that has more machine work done in it than any other cannery in Alaska. The scows that bring the fish have sloping bottoms and a gate is raised at the side and the fish slide down on to an endless carrier and are taken right into the cannery without any one touching them. And after they get into the cannery all the rest is mostly machinery.