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Minthorn Letters

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MOSES AND ANNIE are both better. I spoke to MOSES last mail day about the P. O. he said he had not done anything about it yet but he would I think he has been very busy fishing.

THE PAINTING OF THE FENCE I have not been able to get done yet as Mr. Duncan seems so easily disturbed about such things and is opposed to any and all such things. The other things I have done - and if I do not get the fence painted before I will do it the last thing just before I leave the last of MAY.

I am going to fix the Office - both rooms - and the two rooms up stairs. I have written for prices on such office supplies as I need now, and as soon as I get a reply I will send for them. I am also going to do something at the garden. I have planted some Fall Wheat and Rye, and will have some ground fixed for planting so that it will be ready to put in early in the spring. I divided the Oat straw among some of the women who are good basket makers to use in making figures in basket work.

BEATTIES WERE NOT ABLE TO GET ANY VEGETABLES so I gave them some Potatoes Cabbage, Lettuce, Rhubarb, Turnips, and Dahlias, and told them I would let them have some more until they could get some. They spoke of paying for it but I told them I did not think I would pay a right to SELL any.

They invited me there once to eat, but I do not think I can go any more as I have no way of returning the compliment. They seem pleasant but I think it is just another way of -getting there-

SCHOOL is to commence Oct. 1st, and two more teachers are coming on the Jefferson next week also I think the lumber for the house. WORK on the house proceeds very slowly.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT that was on the cannery ship has been purchased by Mr. G.D. and will be installed in the teachers houses.

A TELEPHONE SYSTEM HAS BEEN INSTALLED. It is in operation between the (the) store and the U. S. Hotel.

I SPOKE TO MR. B. TWICE ABOUT THE S.S. last Friday night when I was there he said they were going to have as many of the children as they could get to come to a S. S. and have the school teachers teach them, and from a remark he made about the church not being comfortable in winter I inferred that they were going to have the S. S. in the school house.

THE CANNERY BOSS SOLD SOME COAL BEFORE LEAVING and I got two tons I thought perhaps I should have bought some for Mr. Duncan as it is difficult to keep warm in very cold weather with wood. But I did not know how to manage it, but of COURSE I will see that he has some if I have to just carry it in and put it in his coal box as I did for awhile after you left when it was cold. It has not commenced to be cold yet.

MR. DUNCAN SEEMS QUITE WELL and has been very pleasant and cheerful. If you do not succeed in getting some one permanently before I leave I think it might be a good plan to get some one to come and stay during the summer and if he wants me and will furnish office supplies I will come back in the fall and stay another year, on the same terms that I came on before My way paid up here and \$100.00 a month and everything found but my board and fuel.

I could not in the garden (and will) ...

Folder No. 255

U. S. Senator McNary. If I had a copy of the one I gave for Senator Lane I would sign that addressed to Senator McNary as I used to be acquainted with him. He seems to give promise of being more helpful than any of the other Congressmen,

I THINK YOU WILL REMEMBER ABOUT SOME REINDEER having been sent here by the Government from the Arctic at great expense and trouble, and allowed to stray away and be lost and probably destroyed by wolves. At least no effort was ever made by the Govt, employees to preserve them,

There are vast quantities of Reindeer Moss here and now that food is likely to become a national if not a world problem it is a misfortune that the people responsible for things here were so slack in the discharge of what was a plain duty,

If you wish I will send you a quantity of the Reindeer Moss. I understand Mr. Lopp who had experience with Reindeer in the Arctic passed upon the adaptability of the place here for the raising of Reindeer, and pronounced it good,

These people have made a scarcity in writing paper in detailing the failures of others it seems to me the good of the Govt service requires that some notice should be taken of their FAILURES,

MR. HAWKSWORTH WAS HERE RECENTLY AND FROM A REMARK HE LEFT DROP 1 (I) THINK he thinks THEY HAVE arrived NOW BECAUSE A FEW POLLARS (DOLLARS) WERE PAID OUT HERE THIS SUMMER IN THE CANNERY,

Canneries

Medicine

IN REGARD TO THE MEDICINAL PLANTS I SENT YOU IF FOR ANY REASON YOU THINK IT ADVISABLE TO HAVE MORE OF ANY OF THEM LET ME KNOW,

Pratt's
visit

AS TO GENERAL PRATT, I TALKED WITH HIM AT SOME LENGTH OR RATHER HE TALKED to me but it was all about people that we had both known Major L J Miles Col John D Miles and others Marsden was not mentioned. I saw a picture of Marsden, Tom, Hanbury Archie Dundas Pat, Verney And General Pratt, that had been taken here. All the remarks that I have heard were in the line of wondering WHY he was here and staid (stayed) so long,

Photos

MARY LOOKED FOR THE NEGATIVES BUT DID NOT FIND THEM, I will find them when I go home and will send them to you. I am taking one of the saw-mill which I think will show its dilapidated appearance, and will send you one as soon as I get some printed. I am enclosing one of the church and one of Purple Mountain and some others. I would not bother you with these things but I imagine it is a dull place where you are and so I am unloading all of this on you,

DO NOT FAIL TO ASK ABOUT ANYTHING (ANYTHING) THAT MAY OCCUR TO YOU but when you write if you do (do not forget that I am showing all your letters to Mr. Duncan,)

The weather is stormy now and I would rather have something to write about than not. I am not keeping any copies. I very much hope you can come here before I leave and will try to have a room made more comfortable for you if I know you are coming. I have told Mr. Duncan that I thought he should write you that he would like to have you come if you could. He seemed pleased with the idea,

Sept 28/17

I am sure you will be tired of this long letter, but now that I see that I am not going to be here long I think of many things that I want to say things that I thought would come up in the course of time, and perhaps were not so---very important. But in consideration of the GENERAL ISSUES here I think since I can state them to you and let you judge of their importance, and as I have gotten the impression some way that you are not so busy as sometimes I am going to make free to mention them. I do not think I ever WOULD go into so many details were it not for the GENERAL ISSUES, such as.

DESPOILING A CHRISTIAN MISSION and taking property sacredly devoted to the Lords work and attempting to put it to secular uses.

TAKING PROPERTY WITHOUT ANY LEGAL PROCESS that COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION (DAWSON) HAD PLEDGED THE FLAG TO PROTECT.

CARELESS AND INEFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF THIS AND ALL OTHER PROPERTY UNDER THEIR CARE. for instance the FISHING PRIVILEGES which the SMILEY CONTRACT shows were worth many thousands of dollars yearly for three years brought the community only a few hundreds (hundred) of dollars and that was wasted.

Power Plant \$7000.00 EXPENDED ON THE POWER PLANT FOR THE MILL AND NOT ENOUGH POWER SO THAT IT IS PROFITABLE TO OPERATE THE MILL. NEGLECT OF THE REINDER ---NEGLECT OF THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT AND ITS FINAL DISCONTINUANCE LAST YEAR BY PUTTING MR. GEIL TO KEEPING BOOKS for a little store in competition with the natives. With nothing to show for it but the ill will of the other merchants and a 3% dividend (see Mr. Schells report)

OPERATION OF THE CANNERY BY WHITE MEN JAPS AND CHINAMEN WHERE NATIVES COULD HAVE DONE BETTER WORK AND HAD OPERATED A CANNERY FOR FIFTY YEARS WITH NEVER MORE THAN ONE WHITE MAN AND NO JAPS OR CHINAMEN.

THE GOVERNMENT CANNERY FREEZING OUT A NATIVE WHO HAD A SMALL CANNERY WHICH HE HAD SUCCESSFULLY OPERATED SO FAR AS IT WAS POSSIBLE LAST YEAR WHEN NONE OF THE TRAP OPERATORS WOULD SELL HIM FISH, the traps being under the management of the Govt, agent

ENCOURAGEMENT OF DANCE HALLS - POOL ROOMS - PICTURE SHOW, AND LACK OF ENCOURAGEMENT OF RELIGION-) - MORALITY - AND LAW ENFORCEMENT- See Mr. Schells report

DISCHARGE OF MR. SCHELL AND RETENTION OF MR. GEIL UNDER PRETENCE THAT MR. SCHELL HAD NOT MADE SUFFICIENT GARDEN. WHEN THE LETTERS OF MR. LOEP SHOW THAT MR. GEIL WAS DIRECTLY IN CHARGE OF WHAT WAS CALLED THE INDUSTRIES AND WAS DEALT WITH INDEPENDENTLY OF MR. SCHELL

Also that Mr. Geil was in charge of the mill (independently of Mr. Schell) and therefore put in the pipe line at a cost of \$7000.00 when he KNEW it would not operate the Mill. Also as being in charge of the industries it was HIS place to have cared for the REINDER. Also being styled INDUSTRIAL TEACHER it was his place to SEE that the boys (at least) had some INDUSTRIAL TRAINING, but neglected it. (see report of Mr. Schell) MR. GEIL MORE THAN ANY ONE ELSE NOW IN THE SERVICE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIRST THREE STATEMENTS ABOVE, and I am convinced that accounts for his being kept here and Mr. Schell (who did not active-

icult each year to compete with people who have had better advantages,

Mr. Beattie has been here now about one month and from appearances and the previous history of events here for the past three years I conclude, that a very earnest effort is to be made to JUSTIFY THE PAST, or at least to save face as much as possible, and to endeavor to make a STRONG APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE FOR SUPPORT,

THAT THE REAL RESON (REASON) MR. SCHELL WAS DISCHARGED was that he had not done THESE THINGS.

THAT MR. GEIL WAS KEPT BECAUSE HE COULD BE DEPENDED UPON TO WORK for those ends and IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT HE HAD ENTIRELY FAILED TO MAKE GOOD IN HIS POSITION AS BEING IN CHARGE OF THE INDUSTRIES,

THAT MR. BEATTIE WAS APPOINTED BECAUSE HE WAS COMMITTED TO THE PREVIOUS COURSE HAVING BEEN AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN IT, AND HAS RECENTLY IN A LETTER JUSTIFIED IT - AND BECAUSE HE IS CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH THE HOME (HOME) BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - HAVING SERVED UNDER IT (IT) AS SUPT OF THE SITKA SCHOOL WHEN IT WAS A MISSION SCHOOL, AND thus would have the support of this board and of Mr. Marden who will be rewarded in some way for HIS FAITHFUL SERVICES IF IT IS POSSIBLE

THAT THE POLICY OF THIS STRATEGY IS TO CONTEND THAT MR. DUNCAN IS AND WAS INSANE, I have been told that Mr. Beattie had stated in Ketchikan that Mr. Duncan had been pronounced INSANE BY TWO DOCTORS,

i (I) WILL HAVE MORE TO SAY ON THESE POINTS AT ANOTHER TIME

AS YOU NO DOUBT REMEMBER THE 1ST. OF OCT. IS THE 60TH, ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS MISSION,

Dr. Myers and Rev. Mr. Kelly have undertaken to have the event celebrated here on that date. I am not able to give any details having only heard this much from Moses, But I think we should try to have some vegetable soup any way at the guest house and I may expend some of your money for some bowls and spoons, And keep them for other occasions of the kind if they should occur, Also I will give some report of it after its occurrence,

I have ended this letter twice but keep thinking of something I want to say, I went to S. S. last Sunday and Mr. Beattie was there for the first time and Moses made a class of Mr. B. and I with Mr. B. for teacher, The lesson was Daniel in the lions den I think it fits me all but being like Mr. Daniel. I cannot tell you just how it happened but Mr. B. opened up and went over MANY things and kept on after every one else had quit.

I cannot in a letter give you much of it, but will give such points as seem to me will interest you most,

IN SPITE OF THE STATEMENT OF MR. LOPP IN A LETTER TO MR. SCHELL apparently intended to let Mr. Schell think that THAT NOTHING HAD BEEN DONE ABOUT DISPLACING HIM - (see Mr. Lopp's letter of May 19th, line No. 9)

Mr. Lopp when on his way to Washington in Feb. 1917 went by way of Mr. B's home and used his best endeavors to persuade him to take the place, He also wrote him in April to the same effect and afterward until he acceded,

Copies of letters (no.1)

METLAKATLA ALASKA May 2 1917

W. T. LOPP - Chief of Alaska division (Division)
Seattle Wash.

Document No. 10

DEAR MR. LOPP

Folder No. 255

I was very glad to hear that the cannery lease was signed. When the Saw-mill stopped we all felt blue. Of course we were all anxiously waiting for word, Mr. Geil received a telegram but did not offer to let me see it or give any definite idea of its contents. I never see any of the letters or telegrams from you or Mr. Hawksworth that he receives. It makes it difficult for me to keep track of the business of the town. I have given him access to all official mail that I have received.

Mr. Marsden has shown me much of his correspondence and has been very careful to keep me in touch. Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Brendible and the people in general have given me their confidence.

Our school closed Friday with a good program. A start has been made that could be developed into a strong work with full cooperation. I am sorry not to have had it this year. Before coming here you said that in case I did not prove to be the man for the place you would transfer me at the end of the year.

I feel that full cooperation is necessary in this important section. I have tried to secure it but it has not seemed possible. A new man might be able to accomplish it. I should like to be considered for another place. I had hoped to be able to talk the matter over with you, but the other day I heard Mr. Geil say you were not coming for some time.

I like the people here and hope to see the work continued successfully. I shall do all that I can to leave my work in a favorable condition for my successor. There is need of a light on the beach near the new store to guide the boats into the harbor at night. Yesterday I took the matter up with Capt. Dibell. He has taken the matter up with the authorities at Washington.

Mr. Marsden still thinks that a Commissioner should be appointed for Metlakatla. I talked the matter over with the Commissioner and the District Attorney, they suggested a Municipal judge. It would be necessary for the Secretary of the Interior to define his authority and powers. A judge is not often necessary here. But it is very inconvenient at times to depend upon Ketchikan. I think something should be done in the matter.

A Survey boat is in the harbor. Some boys broke into the boathouse and took some of the brass trimmings from one of the boats. The boys had the material ready to take to Ketchikan to sell when they were caught by the constable several weeks ago. They were not punished in any way so far. Unless something is done it will increase contempt for Government property. Several times lately our house has been entered when we were all away from home and trifles taken.

The other day Sidney Campbell said that he wished to give me warning that there is danger of the school house being burned by some lawless persons. He advised having plenty of water handy, We have piped into the laundry room about 100 feet of hose.

UNUSUAL to say the least,

Referring to the table of STATISTICS that I recently sent you, it will be seen that compared with other schools in S. E. Alaska METLAKATLA is gaining or at least is holding its own while other schools (Sitka, Juneau, Wrangell, are falling off- That may be ONE reason-but if it is it is a minor reason, as is shown by the fact that the efforts being put forth are not much in reference to the school,

No new departments being added, No more teachers, No boarding arrangements as the people had ASKED for, and ACTUALLY the MOST IMPORTANT DEPARTMENT (THE INDUSTRIAL) THE same as being eliminated by having the teacher set to building a house for the Supt. All of this it seems to me shows that the STORM CENTER is not the school, itself. Also the former Industrial teacher (who Mr. Schell says in his report failed to get the boys to take any interest in the MANUAL TRAINING) was given a Gentlemans Job,

WHAT THEN IS THE OBJECT evidently, to me, to save face and mark time until Mr Duncan either dies or leave. I do not think they are going to pursue any more aggressive courses but rather the contrary toward the mission.

They may get a Doctor, a young man, so as to keep the people from feeling any obligation to the Mission and with the idea that then Mr. Duncan would have no excuse for having a Doctor and they would be still more in the majority. They will I think do all they can to draw people away from Mr. Duncan's services, by trying to have something MORE ATTRACTIVE.

This brings me to the point where if I was competent to give any advise (advice) it would be in order. While I do not think it would be EASY to adjust things here and do not think I could do anything worth while about it. Still I know YOU will give what I feel like saying a hearing, also that you are in a position to DO SOMETHING and that no one living is so well qualified to deal with the situation or will and does so willingly assume the task. THE (THE) BOAT IS COMING AND I (I) WILL HAVE TO FINISH THIS ANOTHER TIME

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

METLAKATLA ALASKA Dec 17 1917

H

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

DEAR MR, WELLCOME

Several interesting things have occurred here since I wrote you the last time, First and most (and I think very) important is that the movement for repairing the church is making good progress, Two collections have been take (taken) up in the church amounting more than \$150.00 I think the subscription is about the same amount so that almost enough is in sight to repair the roof.

The reason I think this is important is that it originated with the people and is so far as I know unanimously favored, Thus being so far as I know the FIRST public movement towards improvement since the Govt, took charge,

Another reason is that the CHURCH should be the FIRST thing to cause such an united effort.

Another that Mr, Duncan should favor and assist in it without having initiated it and at a time when he is opposing everything in the way of improvement on the ground that there is no certainty of remaining here.

Another is that Mr, Duncan should after a lifetime of opposition to the principle of congregational support, and especially to taking collections in the church have yield to it without any protest,

Another is that the money does not go into Mr, Duncans (Duncan's) hands but is held by one of the congregation and will be disbursed by the congregation without any interference from Mr, Duncan.

I think the influence of this incident on the people will be very salutary,

The other incidents may not seem important but I think they are also calculated to have some beneficial effect,

One is that Silas Milne and his brother picked up a scow having on board two donkey engines some lumber and worth in all about \$20,000.00 they have reported the occurrence to the custom house and employed Mr, Sahoup to help them to get their share,

I think the contact with the courts and with the lawyers

the season, when they can expect to make almost inordinate wages, while during all of the rest of the year it is FEAST, TALK, VISIT, SLEEP, &c, &c,

The other SHIFTLESS habit is not to do anything as long as the money they have earned during the summer lasts, and then as long as they can BORROW or SPONGE from others,

So when one gets out during the worst weather and when he has plenty of money and works, I feel encouraged, that perhaps it might be CONTAGIOUS, and some of the WASTE time be utilized,

Sawmill


ANOTHER incident is that the council turned down Mr. Lopp's (Lopp's) request that the sawmill be turned over to the Com. Co, for four years more, because the community had not realized anything out of it during the PAST year

M.W. Atkinson

I told you something in my last letter about Miss atkinson (Atkinson) coming have heard from her since and she is having some trouble about some money that she expected to get and has to put off the time, and it might be possible since she perhaps cannot come now until the people have scattered to get work that she will not come for some time, or wait until I go home,

Mary came over at Thanksgiving time and brought a chicken (cost \$1.00) and made a dinner for Mr. Duncan and I. She is getting along well in her school work and likes it. Her time is nearly half out now and she is beginning to think about going home and wants me to go also,

Unless some one else is secured to stay here I do not see how I could go.



While Mr. Duncan would I think be of the opinion that he could do as well or better without me still it is very evident that some one will need to be here now as long as he lives. He has mentioned that he never paid any one so much as he is paying me and it would not be surprising if he should reduce the pay, which does not seem to hardly meet requirements now that everything is so high,

Vessels

Although he seems to be very anxious about the result of your efforts still he is better contented I think than he has been since I have been here. But he seems obsessed with the idea that he must not do anything until you have concluded your efforts. All of his Seine scows have been lost during the awful storm just past. I do not know as you notice in the papers that the Alki-Mariposa-and Spokane have all been lost during this storm and the Prince John went ashore but was gotten off,

The loss of these three of the largest Steamers on the Alaska run has greatly crippled the service. I think you will recollect that we covered the one story building adjoining the Guest House with those metal shingles. About half of them blew off of one side in one night pulling the nails right out of the boards. T

I told him I believed the same kind of preaching would have the same effect now, that the people were no worse now than then when they were guilty of all sorts of crimes. He seemed to be thinking and said no more, Perhaps it is IMPUDENCE for me to talk to HIM about PREACHING,

YOUR FRIEND

THIS

LETTER FROM genl. p, CAME TODAY AND SO I CANNOT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT

f B. Minthorn

(Copied from a typewritten letter. The corrections were made by Mr. Wellcome that appear in the letter.--M.G.)

METLAKATLA ALASKA - DEC, 27th - 1917

DEAR MR. WELLSOME

I have not written to you for two weeks so I owe you two letters. Christmas Exercises in the church went off better than last year in fact the church is in a much more hopeful condition every way than it has been for some time. And I think Mr. Duncan is in a more comfortable frame of mind than he has been since I came up here three years ago. He has given up all of his interests for the people except the church and S.S. &c work,

He was getting very impatient to hear from you, but when he got telegram from the President, he seemed to feel as though he had an opportunity to hurry things and wrote to him. The President has appointed Gov. Strong to come here again and make a report,

I have told Mr. Duncan that he cannot expect anything to be done now until the Gov. has been here and made a report and the report has been considered which will take at least six months,

I had a letter from Mr. Boren recently. He says he has had an attack of Iritis but has recovered. From him I learned also that Mr. Bowman has been sick,

The amount of goods sold in the stores during the few days preceding Christmas must have been very large. Moses sold \$300.00 worth on the 24th, and the other stores had as good a trade,

We have had the most stormy winter I ever knew in Alaska I told you about the month of Nov. and the record rainfall of 54 inches during the month and the high winds and now we have four feet of snow, which is also a record breaker for the snow fall in this part of Alaska,

It is also cold, though not so cold yet as last winter. Mr. Duncan persists in having his room almost as cold as it is out of doors. I wish I knew what to do about it. He has four hot bricks put in the bed at 7 p.m. and when he goes to bed puts them around him and says he is comfortable,

The article written by genl. Pratt, was in the Ketchikan paper but I do not think it had any effect as people have gotten used to such things, no one seemed to notice it or answered it,

Dec. 28th. more snow last night and looks like there might be still more today. And it has been quite cold for Alaska. The mail was three days late this week on account of the weather. There is only one mail a week now at Ketchikan on account of the scarcity of steamers, three having been lost this winter. Prices of many things continue to go up. But we have plenty of potatoes and a man brought in fifteen deers the day before Christmas and King Salmon is plentiful, so we are not likely to starve,

Mary came over from Ketchikan to stay during the holidays and we had a dinner and had Mr. Duncan in on two different occasions,

There has not been much political activity this winter I think

17
9-27

H

Lapp to Schell,

ENCLOSURE TO
Wichita Falls
DATED 11-23-17

METLAKATLA ALASKA Oct 9 1917

Mr. H. S. WELLCOME EAST 41st, STREET -NEW YORK CITY N. Y.

DEAR Mr. WELLCOME

I undertook to tell you something in the last let-ter (letter) about Salmon showing how it had advanced in price and how the wages paid in the handling of it compared with the change in prices. And how the NATIVES had been affected by those changes, and more especially.

THE DIFFERENCE IN THE WAY THE NATIVES FARED RELATIVELY UNDER THE MISSION MANAGEMENT AND THAT OF THE GOVERNMENT, With the hope of showing the benefit the NATIVES derived from the MISSION.

THERE ARE FIVE SPECIES OF SALMON concerned in the Alaska canning business,

1st, SPRING SALMON- also known as King Salmon, Chinook, Columbia, Sacramento, Guinnat, and Tyee Salmon, It is the largest and most valuable, and sold 20 years ago for 50¢ each or about 2¢ a pound, NOW 10¢#

2nd, SOCKEYE SALMON- also known as Blue back, Red Fish, Red Salmon Fraser River, and Saw-qui Salmon, and sold 20 years ago at from 5 to 7¢ each Now 30¢ each

3rd, Cohoes, or COHOE SALMON, also known as, Silver, Silversides and Skowitz, Salmon, Sold 20 years ago for 10¢ each Now 35¢ each

4th, Humpies, or HUMP-BACKED SALMON, also known as Stamon here, Used to sell 20 years ago for from 60¢ to \$1.50 a hundred, Now 8¢ each

As the Humpies are small and consequently frequent small streams they are by far the most abundant in Alaska, as many as 20,000 have been taken at ONE haul of a net near here in the EARLY days of Salmon Canning,

5th, DOG SALMON, The least valuable of any, It occurs in large numbers in Puget Sound, and very seldom canned here 20 years ago but it averages about twice the size of the Humpies it brought about twice as much, Or 20 years ago 3¢ each and NOW 17¢ each

THERE HAS NOT BEEN THE SAME ADVANCEMENT IN WAGES AS IN THE PRICE OF SALMON, Although the most enterprizing and energetic men can make considerably more now than 20 years ago.

Mr. Duncan paid Benson \$4.00 per day as manager of the cannery 20 years ago he is manager of the cannery now at Chomley probably at \$6.00 per day Alack, Guthrie got \$6.50 a day this year as boss mechanic of the best cannery in Ketchikan, With 1½ times for over time, and the wages were from that down to 45¢ an hour outside of Metlakatla, At Metlakatla the wages were 35 and 40¢ an hour, and work whenever called upon sometimes one hour a day and sometimes as long as 14 hours in a day, The wages of the women averaged a little over \$100.00 for the season while those working at other places averaged about 50% more,

Atkinson was Native boss and his seasons wages amounted to about \$200.00 while those working away from home averaged about \$300.00, (that is those working for wages) Mr. Duncan says he has paid Atkinson and his wife as high as \$550.00 for a seasons work years ago,

BUT A CLASS OF MEN SUCH AS I HAVE BEEN TELLING YOU ABOUT SUCH AS TOM,

I went to Ketchikan yesterday and came back today on the mail boat ? I went over with Geo, Eaton, I asked him a few questions about the people and the following are some of the items (Items) he gave me,

Fisheries

Boats fishing with seines carry three men, The receipts are divided into five parts, Two parts for the boat and one for each man, His boat made \$475.00 to the share, being the owner of the boat he got three shares or \$1425.00 and his son who was one of the crew got \$475.00 Or the boat and crew made \$2,375.00 and other boats as follows,

Wm, Lisk \$3,000.00 ---Howard \$3,000.00 --- John Hudson something over \$3,000.00 &c, &c, He thinks John Hudson did the best of any one, He bought a seine for \$100.00 and caught more than enough to pay for the (seine) next day,

Geo, Eaton thinks John Hudson is the best fisherman of all, But Tom Hanbury working alone with Geo, to oil and look after the engine (Geo, is 8 years old) and trolling all the time made \$1,200.00 And as he fished mostly on the outside in the open ocean, it was a very creditable feat especially for Geo, who feels considerably swelled up as well as very greasy after a seson (season) in the engine room,

Sawmill

There is now a great ambition to have boats and Schell says he heard that the Council was going to take the Sawmill away from the Com, Co, and put it in charge of a competent Mill wright and let the people have the use of it at so much a day as Mr, Duncan used to do and let them saw boat lumber and other lumber for their own use,

Canneries

Also Canneries are offering to build boats and let them to the MET-LAKATLANS to use in fishing on the terms as stated above,

Contracts

Geo Eaton also has a Pile contract for the winter, but he is ambitious to have a larger boat, and may transfer his pile contract sell his boat and build a larger one, some of the things he said about fish were as follows,

In the early days Mr, Duncan paid 5¢ each for Dog Salmon when others only (only) paid 21-2¢ (2½¢) --2 1-2¢ (2½¢) / Also LAST year dog Salmon sold for (for) 3¢ each -Pd this year as high as 35 to 40¢ each, and Cohoes were selling now for 75¢ each,

What I am trying to get at in all this the times and conditions have changed and the man who thinks of coming here NOW to help these people has a far different task before him to what Mr, Duncan had before him 60 years ago

Criticizes

Govt. employees

Another thing I am trying to show is that the Govt, employes (employees) with their business plans are not in touch with the men of any influence and ability at all, The truth is that the Govt has NEVER had and does not now have a man here of equal business ability with the a average native here engaged in competing with other men for business any of them without a salary and thrown on their own resources along with these people how to do business in the surroundings of S, E, Alaska and seem to want the Natives to look to them for advice and direction, The fact is what they are doing is simply trifling along in order to draw their salaries,

Another thing I would like to show is that these people are making

(10-9-17.)

-2-

Document No. 12

Folder No. 255

gality &c, &c, Some kind of a Just and Staple local Government, that will protect them in the possession of their property and make safe to them Life Liberty and the pursuit of happiness

Dear Mr, Wellcome

I got back from Ketchikan but have been too busy to write. Mr Schell Recd another letter from Mr. Lopp of which I will get a copy as I think it has some bearing on matters,

Also I found that Genl. Pratt ha (has) been displaying some very unpleasant traits and wrote an article for the Portland Telegram reflecting on both the Govt, and Mr, Duncan I will try to get the paper, I have not time to write more now,

YOUR FRIEND

H. J. Minthorn (Signed in ink.)

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

Private &
Confidential

Document No. 13

Folder No. 255

METLAKATLA ALASKA Oct 13 1917

MR, H, S, WELLCOME - 18 East 41st, STREET NEW YORK CITY N, Y,

DEAR MR, WELLCOME

I am sending you some potatoes that grew in the Mission Garden, I think there are 29, in the paper sack, they all grew in one hill. The seed cost \$5.50 per sack and on that account was (were) cut in small pieces for planting, averaging about 5 pieces to each potatoe, (potato) so that all of these potatoes grew from one of those pieces,

I am sending them to you to show what ALASKA does when called upon by the Govt, to put forth a patriotic effort. There was not room in the hill for any more than these 29 potatoes so the rest climbed out and fastened themselves on the stalks, see enclosed stalks.

THE PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO ARRIVE AT HOME there seems to be a general good feeling on account of the prosperous season, and the stores are being filled with new goods and are doing a good business. The talk is all about the summers work, about boats of different sizes and builds, as it has transpired that the style of boat has much to do with the result of the seasons work,

I have heard that some of the canneries have offered to furnish boats for next seasons work to METLAKATLA NATIVES on the customary terms of two shares to the boat, but it is said that no such offers are being made to any other natives, and of course not to ALL the METLAKANS,

THE REV, MR, VAN MARTYR came over on the mail boat on tuesday (Tuesday) to see Mr, Duncan in reference ti (to) the ANNIVERSARY, he brought with him your letter to Mr, Duncan -on the subject of the ANNIVERSARY and also one signed by his VICTORIA FRIENDS, Mr, Duncan was VERY much pleased to receive them and has spoken several times of the very nice letter he had received from YOU,

AFTER CONFERENCE WITH MR, DUNCAN AND AMONG HIS FRIENDS IN KETCHIKAN it was thought best to have the ANNIVERSARY very informal and his friends DR, MYERS, MR, STRONG, MR, KELLY, MR, VAN MARYTR, AND OTHERS will come together on some boat obtained for the occasion, but on mail day so that others who want to can come also,

I understood that Mr, Schells might come and have invited them to come here if they do. All would call on Mr, Duncan for a half hour and take the lunch they would bring with them on the boat, and return without any further demonstration. This suits Mr, Duncan, and seems to me to be the most desirable especially for ONE reason which I will explain,

I LEARNED AS I TOLD YOU IN MY LAST LETTER THAT GENERAL P, had some things to say to (the) people in Ketchikan. One was that Mr, D, had led an immoral life among these people, Genl, Pee, also wrote something for a Portland paper. Of course no one knows anything about Mr, D, is going to be influenced by such things except to have contempt for genl, PEE but considering that he is a GENERAL in the U, S, ARMY and his former official positions it is embarrassing for Mr, Duncans friends for him to circulate such reports,

OF COURSE THE MEANING OF THIS IS THAT THERE IS NOTHING TOO MEAN

(10-13-17.)

Document No. 73

-2-

Folder No. 255

I told you in my last letter where I Recd the information in regard to this, I hate to even repeat it to you, and I feel that I must call your attention to the fact that I was FAVORABLY impressed with the Generals visit before as you will see by reference to my mention (mentioning) of the subject in my letter to you, If I had Recd, this information from almost ANY other source I would not have mentioned it.

MR. DUNCAN SHOWED ME A LETTER HE HAD RECENTLY RECD FROM YOU WHICH SEEMS TO be encouraging What (what) I said about being in the LIONS DEN in another letter I want to change to SKUNKS DEN, since I learned what genl. pea, (PEE) has to say

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

Private

Document No. 14

Folder No. 255

NEELAKATLA ALASKA Oct 16 1917

11
16-16

Mr. H. S. WELLCOME 18, EAST 41st, STREET NEW YORK CITY N. Y.

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

I will remind you that I said I intended to write to you once each week for one year on account of the Typewriter. This resolve has been the cause of my writing much that I am sure was Trivial to say the least in order to have SOMETHING to write, and may account for much of what I will continue to write,

But as I am only writing for your own use, I am sure it can do NO HARM. I have tried to be as accurate as I could in my statements, and where I have found myself mistaken I have tried to make correction afterwards, as soon as I could,

I am ENCLOSING FOR YOU A COPY OF THE ARTICLE WRITTEN BY genl. p for the Portland Evening Telegram, I have also sent for \$1.00 worth of the copies thinking you might have some use for them,

Probably I do not need to make any comment on this article. But as I know that the TELEGRAM has several times defended Mr. Duncan in its columns it seemed to me that the Editor had tried to say in the opening Paragraph what it seemed to him that genl. p had OUGHT to have said as that Paragraph gives an impression opposite to what genl. p thies (tries) to give. For the genl; slurs both MISSIONS and the GOVERNMENT,

MR. DUNCAN HAS SEEMED SOMEWHAT DISCOURAGED FOR SOME TIME PAST, AND THE ACTION OF MARSDEN IN TRYING TO PREVENT HIS FRIENDS FROM COMING TO SEE him has had something to do with it, Mr. Duncan had always been used to having much company but now being out of all business comparatively few people come to see him so that he is lonely as well as discouraged,

His somewhat unfortunate way of talking to even those who want to be his friends as though they were his enemies has the effect to keep many of the people away, both from his home (home) and from the Church and thus makes him feel deserted,

Add to this a persistent effort on the part of the Govt. employees (employees) for several years to discredit him in the eyes of the people and the attendance at his services is it seems to me very remarkable. On last Sunday there were 75 people at the Morning service,

AFTER THE MAIL CAME IN TODAY AND MR. DUNCAN RECD THE LETTERS OF CONGRATULATION from the PRESIDENT of the U.S. and others more than 30 persons in all he seemed more cheerful, I think its effect on him will be permanently for the good, and will go far towards minimizing the petty persecutions he has to suffer in his every day life,

"OUT OF THE FOLDS OF HIS CLOUD GARMENT WINTER IS SHAKING THE SNOW" The 15th of Oct. was the first FROST and SNOW, all around on the hills the trees are white with snow, It looks fine, but it is a hint of more or less suffering for many, But I think most of these people will fare fairly well this winter, The health of the community is (is) good, Moses and Annie are better than they were last spring. Josiah

I HAVE BEEN HAVING THE POTATOES DUG AND WE WILL HAVE ABOUT 20 SACKS AFTER having used out of them ever since July 8th, and given some away, There are also plenty of Carrots and Cabbage and Turnips,

THE NEW ACCOUNT BEGINNING WITH THE CREDIT OF THE SECOND \$200.00 I HAVE PLACED THE EXPENSE INCURRED IN GOING OVER TO GET THE LETTERS OF MR. Schell I went over on Friday thinking of coming back on Saturday but Mr. Schell was very busy then and I had to wait until Monday and then could not find a boat so came on the mail boat on Tuesday.

ANOTHER item will be FILMS and printing cards that will come to more than I expected as I was just learning and made some failures. One thing I am trying to show is that the (the) mill is not depended on to furnish lumber. And that the lumber that is being used by the Govt and the people is being bought in Ketchikan and Seattle. At a cost of from \$3.00 to \$7.50 a thousand for freight alone. The lumber itself also being very high now, I will go into more of the details of this when I get the prints.

Mr. Schell had another letter from Mr. Lopp. There is nothing of much importance in it but in a way it is important, as showing that there were no charges against Mr. Schell -except as to the Garden, which really was Mr. Geils business. It also shows that Mr. Lopp is on the anxious seat, I will try to get a copy of it as soon as I can.

I THINK THE CLIPPING SHOWING WHAT general ~~has~~ HAD TO SAY IS IMPORTANT as it shows that Marsden sent for him and that what he says is for Marsdens benefit. Which confirms Dr. Myers statement that marsden (Marsden) is THE INSTIGATOR AND AGITATOR and is determined that there shall not be any HARMONY HERE IF HE CAN PREVENT IT.

OF THE VEGETABLES IN THE GARDEN I (I) HAVE GIVEN SOME TO VARIOUS ONES. before there were vegetables to be had in the market, BEATTIE'S Dr. MYERS, SCHELLS, VANMARTER, AND ONE OR TWO OTHERS, MR. DUNCAN EMPLOYED A woman to dig some and put them in his Frost Proof room in the store, probably 7 or 8 sacks and I will have as many. So that there will be plenty and still some to spare. There is also plenty of Cabbage, Carrots, Turnips, Rutabagas, &c,

I HAVE ORDERED A LITTLE MORE THAN \$20.00 WORTH OF MEDICINE FROM SEATTLE AND I have had to buy a few items here all of which will appear in my state)ment (statement) I have also bought a few seeds. As soon as the people get home so that I can get some one to work I will do the improving of the rooms in the Guest House.

JOHN HUDSON CAME HOME YESTERDAY AND CAME IN HERE LAST NIGHT HIS story sounded different when I heard it from him. He was fishing for a cannery. The cannery furnishing the Gear &c, and paying for the fish 15¢ each. He decided to buy a Sein and so be able to sell anywhere he could do the best.

He bought the Seine at a cost of \$500.00. The next day he caught 4,000 fish in two hours which he sold for \$1,000, making enough to buy two Seins in one day. He and the two boys made \$3,300.00 and he was the ONLY INDEPENDANT fisherman among the people here. A white man married to a Chimsean woman fished with his own gear and the best end crew

(10-16-17.)

Document No. 14

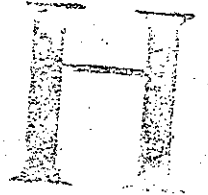
-3-

Folder No. 255

MR. DUNCAN SEEMS BETTER THAN USUAL, AND MORE CHEERFUL, HE HAS NOT SCOLDED ME SINCE I (I) TOLD HIM THAT I (I) WAS GOING TO LEAVE ABOUT JUNE 1st,

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

(POSTAL CARD)



A view of - Ex-Governor Hill Residence, Augusta, Maine.

Ex-Gov. Hill married a wealthy southern lady of St. Louis, Mo. She was not contented in an ordinary house and so he built this one for her with her money. What is now the Children's Home Building was a Dr's residence which was one of six or eight removed from the ground to make room for the mansion and its spacious lawn.

I secured the bldg as a gift from the Gov. and had it removed half mile away to the outskirts of the city in 1912.

(Copied from a postal card which was written by M. W. Atkinson to Dr. H. J. Minthorn, Metlakatla Alaska.--M.G.)

METLAKATLA ALASKA Oct 31 1917

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

Document No. 16
Folder No. 256-

DEAR MR, WELLCOME

There are seven more mail days until the year is up for which I promised to write a letter each week, I think I shall be very glad when the time is up I feel like a Tattler and a spy &c, &c,

But I recollected that you wanted to know ALL that was goin (going) on when you was (were) here so I have tried to give a general idea,

Mr, Lopp is here and has had Council meetings yesterday and today is trying to make some disposition of the mill as the lease was for one year.

It seems the Com, Co, wants to lease it for four years or buy it, the lease which is just expiring has not been very satisfactory to the community as almost NOTHING has been realized for the Community out of it and the lumber which the Community is supposed to have an opportunity to buy is held higher than at Ketchikan and the variety and quality are very inferior, So that no one is buying it,

The Com Co, is supposed to have made a lot of money out of the contract to furnish the lumber for the construction of the cannery and expect to repeat the operation next year,

As you can see it makes no difference to Smiley what price is put upon the lumber as it comes out of the Community, and as the Community nor the Council had any say in making the Contract it is easy to see how it might be a very GOOD contract for the Com, Co,

On the other hand as the Com, Co, did not make any repairs on the mill it is in about as bad condition as it Can be, and if the Community or the Council undertake to operate it the first thing will be to repair it and neither the Community or the Council have any money available for making repairs There is scarcely any other way than to let the Com. Co have it on Their own terms. And yet the Council see the injustice of the situation in which they are placed, and although some (perhaps all but one) of them have stock in the Com, Co, they do not like to be herded into such a RAW scheme,

Then of course there is the Community to be heard from and although so far the Community has never realized anything yet some of them are good kickers and are not backwards about indulging in the pastime,

The other Poor merchants also try to have something to say about everything being rounded up to the door of the Com, Co,

Then this year there are people in the community that have made more money by their unsaid efforts then (than) the whole Com, Co, George C. Williams made \$7,000,00 and his crew consisted of himself and his two sons so it is all in the family

John Hudson Over \$3,000,00 and all in the family and he and both of his sons have joined the community

Moses Hewson has at last gone to work on the petition for re-appointment as PM. He tried to get Haldane to take it and then Benson but neither of them wanted it. So it lies between him and the Com. Co. I do not think he stands much chance of getting it.

One of the Councilmen came in here last night after the (the) council meeting to have a sore dressed. Mr. Duncan was here and gave him a long and somewhat forcible talk. After Mr. Duncan left he was telling me about the council meeting, and then I asked him what Mr. Duncan was talking to him about he said the action of the council against him.

The councilman (Josiah Booth) said Mr. Duncan was mistaken, that after he was elected last winter some one tried to have the Church taken from Mr. Duncan and given to Marsden but he and nearly all the councilmen voted against it, and that he wanted Mr. Duncan to stay here and do his work.

Mr. Duncan is not getting scarcely any FATS in his diet. No butter nor lard or anything of that kind. In fact, starch is I think three fourths of his food. Now that the cold weather is coming on I think he is liable to suffer more than ever in the cold.

I spoke to him about it and told him that Moses had good butter. Afterwards he said he went there and enquired (inquired) and they asked him 60¢ a pound. He said he never would pay any such price.

Also he should have some rubber soles on his shoes as he is liable to fall the weather has been VERY bad the church bell has not rung for more than ten days, on account of the bad weather. Last Sunday Mr. Duncan and I were the only ones that went to church.

He has no coal and it is miserably cold in his room. I offered to bring coal for him but he said no.

I do not know that anything can be done about it, for he will have his way. But I have mentioned it that if you think of any way to remedy matters I would like to know of it. The real truth is that his clothes his bed, his food and temperature of his room are all insufficient. If he should get sick of course we could take any course that seemed best.

However I think as a precaution it might be well for you to write to DOCTOR Myers that in case Mr. Duncan should get sick that he should employ a Man to nurse him and provide suitable heating arrangements &c. &c. Also that would be a good time to install a small heater with a coil in his bedroom sitting room and dining room, and change his bed for one that would be more comfortable. And dispose of that one in some way so that he could not ever use it any more.

Of course nothing hardly ever comes out as we plan but it would do no harm to take some precautions.

Maria has been sick now for four days and the worst weather I ever saw in Alaska and he will not have any one else and will not let me do anything for him. I am sure I cannot imagine (imagine) HOW he (he) gets along, although Maria is not much better than no one. Tom.

the necessary expense,

I think I should mention again that the leading members of Mr. Duncans church are anxious to have some one to be preparing to take up the work after Mr. Duncan is through. They would like to see some one learning the language and getting acquainted with the people &c, &c. As you have said he should be a doctor, and have a wife that would also be intereted (interested) in the work

I have heard that things are in a very unsatisfactory state at old Metlakatla and more than likely many of those people will come over here,

I am sure i (I) hope you will find it possible to come here again, about Christmas if you can and if not then I think a good time would be the last of May. But any Old time will not only do but be entirely appropriate,

John Hudson has just been in. He has just returned from a Deer hunt said he got five in one day and has salted them down.

Tom Hanbury was in Wednesday night said he had been trolling and had made \$70.00 in a week he brought some Halibut and King Salmon for Mr. Duncan and I.

The cottage is shingled so I suppose it will go ahead now without any more delay,

Some time before I get through with this weakly rubbish I am going to have something to say about what I think ought to be done here. I have started several times to do so but it seemed so much like impudence that I could not seem to do it,

This is SUNDAY Nov, 4th, and almost as stormy as last Sunday and has been so nearly all the week.

The usual winter POW)WOW has commenced and bids fair to be up to the best of all previous records, CULMINATING in the annual election in Dec. After which things will Hibernate for the rest of the year.

The allotment (allotment) of the last LOAN for Ketchikan to raise was \$30,000.00 and more than \$88,000.00 was subscribed, John Hudson was a subscriber,

The late storms have blown many shingles off of the east side of the church so that side of the house cannot be used. But I think it will not get repaired until you come,

Joel Bains I have heard has bought a house in Ketchikan and will live there so that disposes of the question of rebuilding the house that burned down

Alec, Guthrie also I hear will not return here to live.

MOSES HENSON is circulating his petition for reappointment as PM. Mr. Duncan has signed it and I think would very much like to see him

(10-31-17.)

Document No. 16

Folder No. 255

-4-

The council did not come to any conclusion about the mill and
there is to be a mass meeting next week.

your friend
(Your)

(Copied from an unsigned typewritten letter ^{of Dr. Minter} ~~---~~ M.G.)

METLAKATLA ALASKA Nov 8 1917

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

DEAR MR. WELLCOME - THIS SERIAL STORM CONTINUES AND AS I SEEM TO HAVE MORE TIME TO WRITE WHEN IT STORMS I AM GOING TO COMMENCE THE STATEMENT that I have mentioned several times

Document No. 17

First (First) as to Mr. Duncan,

Folder No. 200

I mention this first because it is very evident that as long as Mr. Duncan lives whatever is done will have to be done with reference to him, and he will have to be considered, first of all. Yet it is just as evident that it will be unfortunate for the mission, and the people and the cause in general, unless something more is done than is being done.

The field is not being occupied and there is no one in sight likely to occupy it,

This brings me to the question of how much can be done just as things are. As to this place (Metlakatla) I will say, that the most that can be done here is to do for Mr. Duncan as much as he will allow to be done and be in readiness to do as much more as possible should any change take place in the conditions or any emergency (emergency) arise. Also to do as much to help him in his work as possible, and also as much to supplant (supplement) the work as possible.

This of course will depend largely on the tact and patience of the assistant. But I will suggest that something can be done with the afternoon service at the church, (called a S.S.) but which could be modified some in its character, and some Mid week work connected with it in the nature of a Christian Endeavor. Where the Bible could be studied. Singing could be practiced (Choir trained) The people trained in conducting something like an old style class meeting. And everything done possible to get the people to attend Mr. Duncans regular services,

I am sure a resourceful person with some experience in Christian work would very greatly enlarge this program and find plenty of opportunity to exercise his gifts, and also make Mr. Duncan feel encouraged by increasing the attendance at the REGULAR SERVICES and also encourage the people by giving them something to do, and making them feel that they were doing something, and above all by, increasing the interest in religion,

As I am going to say something about work outside of Metlakatla and I am supposing that the Missionary has a wife who is also a Christian worker, I will (will) say that I am of the opinion that most (most) if not all of the above considering the present state of relations between the Govt. and the mission and Mr. Duncans well known predilections, could be done BEST by a woman leaving the man to expend his endeavors on the outside field, at least at first,

I will say also that I consider that some at least of Mr. Duncans early succes (success) in his work was due to the training provided by the C. M. S. and that the succes (success) of any undertakings (undertakings) is greatly facilitated by thorough preparation, so these people should be persone well trained in present methods of conducting Christian work and have had actual experience and

These things and such others as could be found useful with such help as could be given to the sick and old, and an interest in Funerals, weddings and the other (other) such occasions would I think all be approved by and helpful to Mr. Duncan, and would not arouse any opposition in the ranks of the OPPOSITION,

In order that the wife of the missionary should have some spare time for these duties and for the help of the people she should have in training all the time two girls in housekeeping, each for a period of at least six months. Who while learning better methods of house-keeping would also assist in doing the housework,

OTHER THINGS that would be done at first, and while Mr. Duncan was still able to continue the services would be to look after the garden learn the LANGUAGE, CONDUCT AN EMPLOYMENT BUREAU, for the people ABOUT WHICH MORE IN ANOTHER PLACE) LOOK AFTER THE SAWMILL (ALSO ABOUT WHICH MORE IN ANOTHER PLACE) and caring for the (the) mission property, seeing to ringing the bell, having fires and lights in the church during time of the services &c, and looking after the interests of the mission outside of Metlakatla (ABOUT WHICH SEE AS FOLLOWS)

WORK OF THE MISSION OUTSIDE OF METLAKATLA

THE MISSION SHOULD SEEK TO ASSIST ALL THREE OF THE TRIBES IN S.E. ALASKA Also I think conditions as THEY EXIST should be considered more than trying to MAKE CONDITIONS.

SOME of the EXISTING CONDITIONS are a fairly large aggregation of people at METLAKATLA, which is quite as likely to INCREASE as to decrease.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOL, CANNERY, SAWMILL, EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD WATER POWER, A LARGE BODY OF GOOD LAND, CENTRAL LOCATION AS TO GETTING EMPLOYMENT, CONVENIENT TO TIMBER, GOOD HARBOR, and the RESERVATION INSURING AGAINST FUTURE ENCROACHMENTS BY WHITE PEOPLE, For these and other reasons METLAKATLA IS A GOOD CENTER FOR THE MISSION WORK from which to reach other points,

ANOTHER EXISTING CONDITION IS THAT THE PEOPLE SCATTER OVER A WIDE AREA DURING SUMMER IN ORDER TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT. If Mr. Duncans idea of MAKING THE WORK OF THE MISSION A FACTOR IN THE DAILY LIVES OF THE PEOPLE be continued the work of the mission MUST AT LEAST IN A MEASURE FOLLOW THEM IN THEIR VARIOUS AVOCATIONS,

AND TO ASSIST IN ACCOMPLISHING THIS I would suggest the EMPLOYMENT BUREAU as a starting point. During the winter and before the working season commences gather information as to all available sources of employment wages, reliability of employers, Housing accommodations, &c, and seek to get in touch with employers of labor before the season began.

find (Find) how much employment each had to dispose of, wages paid, character of employment & c, and thus enable the people to make early and favorable contracts. Also enable them to learn about the furnishing of boats nets &c, to such persons as are not supplied with them,

Also get information for the use of persons who owned their own boats and other equipment, as to prices to be paid for the various kinds of fish, or for saw logs in case of logging, and any other information of value to the people,

(11-8-17.)

-3-

Folder No. 255

MANY LINES OF INDUSTRY AND PROFIT ARE UNDEVELOPED IN SE. ALASKA, SOME of which could be insuggerated at METLAKATLA with some effort and attention,

Such as Pulp making, a KELP factory, A GLAM and CRAB cannery operated in the winter time, Improved methods of drying and Salt Curing fish and preparing it for market, Manufacture of lubricating oils, and Fertilizers from fish and Cannery refuse, Improved manufacture of baskets, Manufacture of leather (or preparation of skins of fish and sea animals) for the manufacture of leather, Farming, Gardening, Fruit raising, Poultry and Stock raising, and many other things, The most important of which are connected with the operation of a Sawmill which brings me to that subject,

THE OPERATION OF A SAWMILL AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES are the things most in line with experience and skill and tastes of these people, and most nearly allied with their remote past industrial experience and habits, The building of Houses and Boats had attained to a comparatively high state (state) of efficiency long before they commenced to learn from White people,

And ever since Mr. Duncan began his work among them Sixty years ago they have been operating Sawmills and building increasingly better houses and boats, until since the Govt has taken charge,

(Copied from an unsigned letter by Mr. Minthorn.--M.G.)

METLAKATLA ALASKA Nov 15 1917

DEAR MR. WELLSOME

H

The storm, has continued until this evening, It seems now more as though it might let up for awhile, It has lasted about three weeks, This is Thursday and no mail has come yet but it is likely that it may come tomorrow, The most common theme of conversation is leaking roofs, I will have to put some roof paint on this roof, and use some more metal shingles on the south side of the house,

It is about all people can do to get wood enough to keep fires going, So many shingles have blown off the east side of the church that the people are circulating a petition to raise money to either reshingle it or do some extensive patching, It seems a pity to go to the trouble to get ready to work on the roof and then only patch it, as it will be about as much trouble to get ready to patch as to reshingle it.

It has been such a prosperous year that it would be the best time there has been for several years to repair the roof, I subscribed \$10.00 which was twice as much as any one else, And I recollected (recollected that you wanted to have it repaired mostly I think at your own expense, But it seems to me that the people need to do it themselves, and I believe it would do more to increase their interest in the church than anything else to do the whole thing themselves,

They could get some logs and make the shingles and put them on themselves, I want to suggest that if any of them write to you about it that if you feel like doing anything that you offer to do one of three things or all three of them provided they make the shingles and put them on, First to pay for the NAILS Second to reinstall the Carbide lighting plant, the whole thing is there except the generator I think, and Third to have the pipe organ put in order,

There might be something done in the way of a soup dinner every day while the work was going on as they like to do things that way and I think it seems to lighten the work and increase the interest,

I think some of them want to invite you to visit METLAKATLA this winter and I hope you will but it seems to me that it might be a good plan if you are thinking of doing so to say that you would try to make it convenient to come some time after the work was done on the church, I am making very free with suggestions but I cannot help thinking it would do them a lot of good to go at this and do it themselves, and I believe it would do Mr. Duncan good too, Especially if the people did it on their own initiative,

Mr. Duncan has no cook yet and it seems that the people want him to have a boy and picked out one for him and sent him to see him, but Mr. Duncan did not want him, I am doing some cooking for him and he is getting along fairly well now as it is not cold, I think he intends to continue as at present until Solomon comes home which will be about a month,

I told him that he either HAD to get a housekeeper or I would, He said that I was used to having a family and he was not, I think if things continue this way long I will commence at Maine and see if there is not some one between there and California (California)

(Nov. 15, 1917.)

Document No. 18

-2-

Folder No. 255

one to get them at such things. Perhaps if they would begin with the church they might get other things done. There is one thing that ought to be done for Mr. Duncan and that is to have some kind of a heating arrangement that could be operated from the outside of his rooms. But I do not see how anything can be done about it now.

Friday & no mail

Marginal note on page #2, the paragraph beginning with Mr. Duncan has no cook yet --- There is an arrow (sign) from the word boy and pointing to the marginal note-Back wash of Genl. Pee's talk.

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

IN WHAT I AM SAYING ABOUT THE SAWMILL AND WATER POWER I AM SUPPOSING THAT THE GOVT. SHALL RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF THE MISSION TO THE PROPERTY AND THE PRINCIPLE THAT WAS SPECIALIZED UPON BY MR. DUNCAN OF MAKING INDUSTRY A PART OF RELIGION.

The Govt has either consciously (consciously) or unconsciously (unconsciously) attacked both of these. Whatever idea the Govt, officers may have had in mind to replace Mr. Duncan's control over the property and in its management has after a trial of nearly four years resulted in entire failure. Three different Superintendents have been in charge. Thousands of dollars of money have been expended on the Pipe line supplying the mill with power with no result except that the plant is in the last stages of ruin.

Not only common honesty but common sense demands the restoration of the property to its rightful owner (the mission) and the payment of money for the property destroyed while in the possession of the Govt. This includes the cannery and contents and Str. Herald all of which come under the head of property USED IN THE OPERATION OF THE CANNERY, which was the principle upon which Jones claimed he was acting in the conversation in connection with the CHAIN HOIST INCIDENT, and which principle has ever since been observed by Mr. Duncan in relation to the property.

The new cannery has no reference to the community except to employ a few of the people. They have no voice in reference to the contract with the (the) operator have no claim to the title and receive no income from it, (although it (it) is pretended that they do receive some income). Therefore I think the Mission has nothing to say about it except to claim pay for the property on the location taken by the Govt, and destroyed while in its possession.

With this statement of explanation (which was not necessary so far as YOU are concerned, and supposing that the Mill and SUCH PART OF THE WATER POWER AS MR. DUNCAN HAD DEVELOPED, are returned I wish to say in reference to it and the mission and YOUR EFFORTS IN ITS BEHALF that it seems to me it is necessary in order that the greatest possible good shall accrue, that the PRINCIPLE STATED ABOVE OF MAKING RELIGION A FACTOR IN THE DAILY LIFE AND AVOCATIONS OF PEOPLE, BE FURTHER TESTED IN THE FUTURE OPERATION OF THIS MISSION,

To make my meaning more plain I will say that for many years the mission performed this function in this community with eminent success. Four years ago it was superseded by the Govt, and the Metlakatla Council, with results as stated above. Let the former condition be restored.

Let the Govt continue the operation of the Cannery if so desired, and in any case the SCHOOL and the MISSION with the mill and waterpower and the proceeds of the destroyed property undertake again the Mission work and the management of the remaining Industrial relations as outlined on the second page of this letter.

I might go into more detailed statement in regard to the management of the mill and other industries but, I do not believe that anything I could say would be of any practical value, and probably what I have already said comes in the same category so I do not consider it worth while to add more to it at this time. In fact I feel more like

(Nov 15 1917)

Document No. 18

-3-

Folder No. 255

Solomon is expected home Christmas and then Sarah will do his cooking. The Ketchikan Marshal Geo. Grant (married to a native woman) committed suicide last week. Also a man and a child were drowned and a whole family at Old Metlakatla. Mr Geil has left FOR GOOD. The high wind has done some damage here. One power boat drifted away and was reeked.

FROM YOUR FRIEND

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

METLAKATLA ALASKA Nov 20 1917

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

DEAR MR. WELLCOME

The last mail came in the night on Friday instead of Tuesday on account of the bad weather, and the storm still continues it is the worst I have seen in Alaska,

Mr. Duncans cook has not returned but as the weather is warm he is getting along very well I take him his Oatmeal mush in the morning and some hot potatoes at lunch time and he uses ready made food for the rest, I think he is enjoying it as it makes him feel independent, (independent)

Mr. Duncan said about the CHURCH that he was going to appoint some one as a sort of SECRETARY and turn all the CHURCH and BENEVOLENCES over to the people and let them manage it themselves, I inferred from what he said about having it all on a cash basis (not any work as I spoke of in my last letter) that he was going to make up what the subscription lacked of being enough to pay for having the work done and have some one take the CONTRACT,

If the weather is suitable on Monday I think I will go over to Ketchikan and will get the letter of Mr. L's, and will send it to you next week although I do not think it is of much importance except that it shows that he is somewhat nervous, Mr. Beattie I imagine also acts as though he was following a Program of extreme cautiousness,

I said in my last letter that I had told Mr. Duncan that either he or I must get a HOUSEKEEPER, He has failed to get one but I think I have succeeded, Somewhat on the line that I told you I was going to try,

It is Miss Matilda Atkinson, and as you will see by the enclosed she is one of the Directors and also the Secretary of the, MAINE CHILDRENS HOME SOCIETY - AUGUSTA MAINE- SHE IS ALSO city MISSIONARY, and it was through the work of the MISSION that the HOME was organized, From the enclosed card you will see that she got the building for the home, She gradually enlisted other people in the work and it is now a permanent institution, She also was engaged in conducting a school for training CHRISTIAN workers and MISSIONARIES, I had a small part in a work of that kind where she was engaged before I came to Metlakatla the first time, She has always wanted to go to some mission field for a short time on account of her interest in the mission work from having been associated with missionaries in the training school work and being familiar with the history of Mr. Duncans work is especially interested in it,

She has owned some property in Oregon for several years where she hoped some time to have a training school for Christian workers,

I have been trying to persuade her that Newport is more favorable as a site for her training school, and when we leave here we will try to decide about that, In the meantime she will have the few months that I stay here to study an actual mission, Although I have also told her as I have also told you that I intend to stay here as long as I can, She is to come to PRINCE RUPERT some time (time) next month and I will

METLAKATLA ALASKA - NOV, "23rd, 1917

MR, H, S, WELLCOME - 18, EAST 45TH, STREET - NEW YORK CITY N., Y.

DEAR MR, WELLCOME

Enclosed please find copy of the LAST letter that Mr, Schell Recd from Mr, Lopp, also clipping from the Ketchikan paper of recent date, Mr, Lopp was here recently and tried to get the people to lease the mill to the Com, Co, but did not succeed.

He is now up North and on his return South is expected to come here again, When the Mill lease will be discussed again in a public meeting.

The expense of going to Ketchikan on this trip was Two fares) one lodging and 3 meals which wil (will) appear in my acct, (\$5,00)

There is a very wide spread discontent among the people much more than I ever knew before, Mostly due to long continued neglect of the village, and what was the Industrial plant, Uncertainty of ownership of private property owing to the stand taken by the Govt, that it all belonged to the Govt, Lack of any HEAD to the affairs of the village, Lack of any civil Govt, Lack of dealing with Lawbreakers, (Law breaker Lack of any employment in the village, &c, &c,

Mr, Duncan seems to be very busy but I do not know what he is doing Writing Writing nearly all of the time, I think his health is better than for some time past, I do not hear any more about fixing the church,

MOSES failed to get the P.O, He resigned and failed to get his application in for reappointment until the appointment had been made, of EVANS in the Com, Co, store,

YOUR FRIEND

(Copied from an original typewritten letter by H.J.Minthorn.-M.G.)

Cont. from Nov. 23rd 1917, letter of H. J. Minthorn

Document No. 20

Folder No. 255-

2

Church
Sunday Nov. 25Th, Very large attendance at church this morning and collection was taken for the repairs and other necessary things about the church I think it is to supply wood &c, as well. So far as I know or ever (ever) heard I think this is the first collection that was ever taken in the church. It amounted to \$84.00 The Choir had a part in the program both at the opening and close of the service, I think the Salvationists were most of them there, Maria has returned to her work,

Beaver
The storm still continues though not quite so hard, It has lasted for more than four weeks, and more than 40 inches of rain have (has) fallen in that time, It is snow on the surrounding hills, Purple mountain is white, One of the Murchison boys was buried last week,

He worked in the mill at Ketchikan and had been paid off that day and went to the picture show with two white men and after the show they went to a restaurant and about 1.30 A.M. Sunday morning started home to some place in Indian town, When at the place where the walk crosses the creek the white men gave an alarm and said Chester had fallen into the creek,

The creek was very high and the body was not found until (until) morning and when found the money \$90.00 was gone and his pocket was wrong side out.

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

Document No. 20

Folder No. 255

Metlakahtla - Wed-Apr.10/12

Judges-
Israel in trouble again
Left to do all work - Enemies get profit
A prophet shows them the reason
Angel appears to Gideon
Doubting God's goodness & power
His humility - I will be with thee
Gideon's fear assuaged
Work to be done for God - Hard work-
His father protects him
God stirs Gideon's heart
The people flock to him not to God
Victory must be God's - too Many
Jealousy of Some-
Unbelief of others - its punishment
Gideon's mistake - Its after effects-

(Copied from a handwritten copy.--M.G.)

Document No. 20
Folder No. 255

COPY

MR. C. D. SCHELL SEATTLE WASH, SEPT, 27 1917
KETCHIKAN ALASKA

DEAR MR. SCHELL

Since I am in doubt as to whether your letter of Sept, 20th, was written in reply to my letter of Aug, 31st, I wish to answer one point in it which has not been covered by previous communications.

You stated "I resoned (reasoned) that if I left my present position and went to Seattle I risked finding no position when I got there",

Now Mr. Schell if you will reread carefully all the telegrams I sent you I think you must out of fairness admit that I did not ask you to come to Seattle before I could promise you a definite position.

When teachers have given up positions to accept appointments in this service they have always received them, without a single exception.

VERY SINCERELY YOURS

(signed) WILLIAM T. LOOP (LOPP)

CHIEF OF ALASKA DIVISION

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

17
1917

Ketchikan, Alaska,

Dec. 1, 1917.

H

My dear Mr. Welcome:- I have been thinking since I first came to Alaska that I would some time write to you. Now I have just returned from there and I am not going to put it off longer. This being Thanksgiving time yesterday was a holiday so I determined to go over if I could possibly find a boat. I found Silas Millan going over and back this morning. The weather was fairer than it has been for some time. Bright sunshine today which is very welcome after the fifty five inches rain we had last month. The Millan brothers found a barge afloat which they claim to be worth forty thousand dollars. So far they have not located the owner.

Vessels

Mr. Duncan seems well but not quite so robust as he has been. Maria was away for three weeks during which time my father cooked all Mr. Duncans (Duncan's) meals and took them over to him. Mr. Duncan seemed to appreciate them and I think was a little disappointed (disappointed) to go back to Maria's mixtures. The potatoes out of the garden are the best I have eaten in Alaska.

The Indians are all gathered in so that the town seems quite alive. Moses came over today to get the mail. Mail has been uncertain since so many of our boats have met with difficulty. The Mariposa is a complete loss, the Spokane quite badly damaged and the Alki on the rocks.

Postal
Service

Vessels

My father seems well but does get terribly lonely. It is very hard now to keep warm since the snow and frost have come.

I am finding the Myers family most splendid to live with and my work very interesting. Hope I may be able to go back to Columbia after two years and complete my course there.

I hope you are in better health and enjoying a most interesting and profitable winter there. I have heard so often of what a very busy person you are and have been interested in you because I have heard My father, Mr. Duncan and Dr. Myers speak so often and so kindly of you. If there is any thing which I can do for you here at any time please let me do so.

The very best Holiday greetings to you

Mary Minthorn

(Copied from a typewritten letter signed by Mary Minthorn-M.G.)