

11-23-1921

Minthorn Letters

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Dr. H. J. Winthorn-----#2

Duncans, the Mission and the natives. This applies also to the question of the cannery, the fishing, the rights of cultivation of the land, all school questions, medical attendance, religious services, etc. These matters must all remain in abeyance so far as the future is concerned until the issues are dealt with in Washington.

This does not prevent you from advising peace and sweet harmony in the meantime; that is, until a final decision is reached. I feel confident that your advice will guide them so that the emergencies can be met with reasonable firmness without either violence or wrangling. They need a balance wheel to keep things on the level until the great issues are settled.

In my letter of November 8th, I endeavored to intimate these points clearly to you, but my expressions may have been too vague to convey my full meaning.

What I want you to clearly understand is that it is very necessary that you go simply as a friend advising the people unofficially to act wisely and discreetly and to stand together in their church and Sunday school and in their daily life and dealings with each other, as Mr. Duncan would advise them to do if he were still alive, and influence/respect and observe the advice of the trustees whom Mr. Duncan has appointed to act for him after his death.

I suggest that a very powerful influence in this direction will be gained by your reading and re-reading often to the people Mr. Duncan's will, and to have it translated and explained by some trustworthy person who clearly understands the full meaning of the will. This will is a great sermon in itself. Some of them said when I had it read to them at Metlakatla "the will spoke in the very language of Mr. Duncan," and they said they "felt that he was speaking the words as if he were present."

We are advised that any discussion of what the trustees or the church or the Mission or the people should do after the case is settled in Washington, or what the government should be expected to do after the case is finally decided, would be extremely unwise and any such discussion in anticipation might be very prejudicial to us

Dr. H. J. Minthorn-----#3

and to the cause of the Metlakatians. Our adversaries could distort and falsify our aims and intentions as they have done in the past.

Prayerful
Attitude

The main point is to get the people together in a prayerful attitude of mind, asking God's guidance. Get all to pray for union and harmony amongst Mr. Duncan's followers.

Friction is very harmful to all concerned and will only assist the enemy. Bear and forbear should be the motto. Urge them all to unselfishly help each other and to forgive and forget petty differences.

Church

Mr. Duncan's followers have managed exceedingly well in fact-fully maintaining possession of the church, and I think they may very well continue to do so so far as they can without violent action. Violence must be carefully avoided, but they must be guarded against such insidious intrusions as Marsden's clique, the Salvation Army and the church army. These are movements that with temperaments like those of irresponsible leaders are bound to create turmoil and may easily result in disaster to the Mission. It is a case of being as wise as a serpent and as harmless as a dove to circumvent the exasperating intrigues which are causing the present trouble.

Future
Plans

All that you say in your letters of November 14th and 15th is of great interest for consideration in the future, after a final decision has been made by the government departments concerned, but we have the very strongest advice that we should for the present carefully avoid asking the Secretary of the Interior or the Commissioner of Education for any permits or preliminary decisions in regard to any details, for these matters are all bound up more or less in the great central issue. Unless it is some special matter of great emergency, as was the case of the Mission buildings which the government agents were hastening to destroy. In that case it was necessary to act quickly and the fact of the appeal and the acts of the agents stand out strongly in our favor. This will, I think, answer the remarks in paragraph four in your letter of November 15th, in which you say:

"But if the Secretary is disposed to allow anything to be done by the Mission at Metlakatla now, regardless of the outcome of the investigation, and I do not see any reason why he should not."

Investigation

Dr. H. J. Minthorn-----#4

A refusal of any application by us for decision on any one detail might injure our main case.

Investigation Regarding the question of an investigation by the government, that is a subject that should not be discussed with the natives or anyone outside, for if it is done it will be done in the government's own way and we shall probably know nothing about it until it is completed. On the other hand, the whole matter may be dealt with entirely at Washington if our case when finally presented satisfies the government department concerned.

Migration The question of moving the Mission to some other place would help our adversaries and should not be discussed or encouraged amongst Mr. Duncan's followers. It would certainly be prejudicial to us in Washington.

Trustees I beg of you to try and convince the people that the trustees are doing their best and are acting under the advice of the most eminent lawyers and statesmen, with a view of saving and perpetuating the Mission on the lines that Mr. Duncan indicated in his will. That Mr. Duncan's followers should be patient and show their respect to Mr. Duncan's memory and his teachings and wait patiently until God gives us victory. We must pray that in good time justice will be done and that the Mission may be restored to prosperity and that such a missionary as Mr. Duncan would desire will be found. We are all united in this aim.

Mr. Duncan's Trusts Natives I think you should impress upon the Metlakatians that Mr. Duncan knows everything they do and say, and even their most hidden thoughts they can never deceive him. Furthermore, I beg you to impress upon them that Mr. Duncan has placed implicit trust in them to carry out their duty to God and to each other, unselfishly and in a true Christian spirit. It is not for one or two or three of them to claim that the mantle of Mr. Duncan has fallen on any one, two, or three individuals, but the trust and confidence is in them all unitedly, and the duty is upon them all, and that unitedly with any and every sacrifice of their own comforts and conveniences, they should cheerfully endeavor to follow in his footsteps and make them-

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Dr. H. J. Minthorn-----#5

I beg of you both to impress upon the Metlakatians with all the power that is in you that my work will be in vain and hopeless if they do not follow the advice which you and the trustees and I are taking so much trouble to give them for their own good and for the future welfare of the church and Mission. Tell them that my prayers will be with them and with you and may God bless our efforts.

With warmest regards to Mrs. Minthorn and yourself, and Mr. and Mrs. Streech and our mutual friends in Alaska, I remain

Always yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. S. Wellcome

Enclosures:

Document No. 14

Folder No. 261

Hephshibah House
263 West 25th St.
New York City

Wednesday

11-23-1921

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir-

Your letter just reached me. There was some delay, but you can reach me at once by the above address.

Trip to
Washington Yes, I can come to Washington. I had considered it, but that I could not bear the expense, but if you are willing to do so, I will come. -- Could you find out whether Mr. Hoover is in the city and let me know by wire as early as possible to-morrow.

I would like to come either to-morrow or to-morrow night. Also could you give me the name of some Hotel to go to or any other arrangements you would like to know. If necessary I could still come later than tomorrow night, but it would be much more convenient for me to come at that time. Even the it is Thanksgiving, I'm sure a telegram would reach me.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Gertrude Minthorn.

Ketchikan Alaska -Nov. 29" 1921

Mr. H. S. Wellcome Arlington Hotel Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Wellcome. I received your letter addressed to Ketchikan today and am glad to have the explicit directions. Mr. Strong's Secretary has called on us and I think I understand to some extent what you want us to do, and we will do the best we can to carry out your wishes.

I think we will go slow until we are sure of our ground, also we will write frequently and furnish you such information as comes to us. We have called upon quite a number of people and from them I think we are getting an understanding of some angles of the situation.

Church

I have tried to ascertain about the attendance at the Christian Church and from all reports it continued good. We are hoping an opening will offer for us to attend a Sunday service some time soon. The first thing we hear from every one is the question whether we are going to Metlakatla. We have told them that we wanted to spend a Sunday there as soon as the weather would permit.

I will tell you in my letters what we hear but of course you will understand that often reports are not very reliable and allowance has to be made but I think altogether we can help you to get a somewhat reliable (reliable) impression of the situation.

I think I sent you a copy of a letter I wrote to John Hudson which I think does not differ from your instructions as to the general policy to be pursued.

Delegation

I heard this morning that the delegation to B. C. was expected here today on their way home. Everyone that I have asked has told me that they went over there to preach the Gospel. My impression is that they will come home in a subdued (subdued) mood as it is altogether a new business with them and it is not likely that they will have met with either success or appreciation.

I think they will not have much to say and that their experience will make them easier to get along with for awhile. Then it was some advantage to the church to have them away for that long.

Mining

claims

Too many cooks spoil the broth, which is one trouble with the church at Metlakatla. I have heard that the Governor went to Metlakatla in regard to the location of mining claims on the Island. One man is said to have located forty claims in the south end of the Island.

I have heard that the Commercial Co. is facing trouble not being able to collect its claims for merchandise and building material furnished to people to encourage them to build houses in keeping up the appearance of prosperity &c.

Presbyterian

Board of

Mission

I have heard also that Rev. J. Hall Young the new Supt. for the Home Board told the Presbyterians that the Home Board would not consider giving any help towards building a Church. Aleck says Rev. Young told him that he would not do anything to embarrass Mr. Duncan's Church

If all these things were so new complications would be introduced and I am not able to predict their effect, but although I am not able to understand all that is going on there I have faith that "all things are working together for good" and that even we will be agreeably surprised at the outcome of it all in due time.

Rights of
The Mission

I have explained to such persons as I have talked with that the case involved infinitely more than just the rights of the mission, but that it had a bearing upon the general welfare of the natives and that while they might not understand all about it yet it was to their interests to have it succeed and that above all things not to get excited and undertake to do things themselves either one way or the other as it only complicated matters and could not possibly (possibly) do any good but to go on, as they had been taught to by Mr. Duncan wit (with) the Church and S. S. and leave the large matters with the Trustees and You. And especially not to introduce any new ways into the Services and to be patient with each other and get all to attend the services that they could, especially the children.

Your friend,

(Signed) H. J. Minthorn.

(Copied from a typewritten letter signed by H.J.M. -- CRS)

The Religious Work of Metlakahtla.

Character
Building Compared to other Missions in other countries which were conducted by different methods, the Missions of both Old and New Metlakahtla have shown a greater degree of development in the character of the natives industrially and intellectually, and as great as others in spirituality.

Testimony In the first place, Mr. Duncan labored to develop the whole man, and used the methods best calculated to succeed. This was due, not so much to experience, for he had none of his own nor of others to follow, but to the combined dependence upon God and the use of his keen business mind. To the blessing of the Lord most largely, and to the constant answering of prayer this wisdom is due.

It was his delight to do the will of the Lord and therefore it was made known to him. He looked for results spiritually and saw them. He labored and prayed to that end. Greater than his success industrially and financially, and far greater, was the success spiritually. This is the proof positive of the work being a Christian Mission exclusively and not a business enterprise.

Business was a means to an end. Being cut off from support by the Church which he left when he went to Alaska from British Columbia, it was a dire necessity for them all, if it were to be a possibility to make a home and a village in Alaska, that they should work and in working earn their support. No church in Christendom was back of them.

They had no promise of support except from God's Word. Moses with the thousands of Israel in the desert wilderness was not more dependent upon God's help than William Duncan when he settled with his colony of the children of the forest on Annette Island that summer thirty-four years ago.

They built their homes and beautiful church, and he built a Christian character and training in all that followed his teachings. And God was with him. In his Juvenile Sunday School without a song or picture with which to catch or hold the attention of that most difficult class of people, the children, he taught and in teaching held their interest to his every word.

He taught them God's Word. He made them feel the reality of the truths that came with such benignant love impressed from his very heart. And God with His Word. Many a man among the older ones who received their education from him, can handle machinery and do many kinds of difficult and intricate work, but almost every one can conduct a meeting with credit to themselves and to their example, Father Duncan, and to the edifying of the listeners. God blessed the example and life of Mr. Duncan to them.

To perpetuate the work of the Christian Mission in Metlakahtla is not simply to revive and conduct the industries which he founded and which he taught them to conduct. The Mission proper is the religious and

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The Religious Work of Metlakahtla

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From the McBeth Mission in Lapwai, Idaho, comes the report by their missionary that the Nez Perces Indians have carried the gospel to some six or more tribes in various parts of the northwest, and are now preparing to extend their missions still farther among the Indians everywhere.

This is the result of the school for workers and leaders which has been conducted by the invalid, Miss McBeth, for many years past. Such a work is what might be the means of saving the gospel teaching of the past years among the Metlakatians, by gathering in the best workers and fitting them by instruction and experience to take the gospel to other tribes in Alaska.

(Signed) Matilda Atkinson Minthorn.

Nov. 1921 - Newport, Oregon (In handwriting)

(Copied from a typewritten document, signed and dated in Mrs. Minthorn's handwriting -- CRS)

H

Ketchikan Alaska - Dec. 2" 1921

Mr. H. S. Wellcome -Care Arlington Hotel -Washington DC

Dear Mr. Wellcome

I am sending you some copies of the Ketchikan Chronicle (Chronicle) containing an account of the visit of the Elders to B. C.

We met and talked with all of them upon their (their) return. They seemed glad to see us and invited us to attend the Church at Metlakatla, which we promised to do on Sunday Dec. 11" and told them that as we would like to attend the S. S. also, probably we would have to remain over night and would like to call on some of our old friends on Monday.

Also I gave them to understand that I would be glad to do anything I could for the sick. Some of the Elders wore the badge of the Church Army but Others said they were Church Workers. You understand I am sure how proud they are and that they want to have it understood that they are doing something quite wonderful all of their own selves and want the credit for it. They are not all that way but I am afraid that most of the Elders are of that class.

Mr. Duncan always had more or less trouble with that spirit but he always dealt with it firmly and so prevented serious results. There is no possibility now of exerting any control over it as he did but much I think can be done by ignoring the ones that are really encouraging division among themselves in the hope of attaining some personal advantage.

The prospect is not as hopeless as it seems at the first glance because although there are quite a few of such spirits and they seem to be the leading spirits also they are and always will be hopelessly divided among themselves and each one of them is seeking his own advantage, while there are a large number of the people that are quietly intent upon going along in the well tried and successful way that they have always followed.

The Hudsons were over and we had a long conference with them. I gather from what they and others have said that the Metlakatla Christian Church is functioning in what must be considered (considered) by any candid outside observer, a very creditable manner in spite of the foolish officiousness of some of the leaders.

Outsiders are all the time seeking to take advantage of this foolishness of some of the leaders. First it was the Presbyterians, but from what I hear they have not only failed but they realize it. But they are not ready to do anything honorable but seem to be planning to unload Marsden on to the Bureau of Education and recommend (recommend) his faction to join the congregation in the large Church apparently with the idea that with the help of the Govt. Agent and Marsden's influence they will be able to monopolize the whole thing.

It might make trouble and more than likely it

H. S. Wellcome 12-2-21

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think both Bishop Rowe and Mr. J. Hall Young are not going to dirty their hands with such methods as have been used in the past by the Home Board of the Presbyterian Church, and as both the Presbyterians and the Episcopal (Episcopal) Church are constantly ably represented at Washington and as probably either one of them would rather see the Metlakatla Christian Church continue than to see the other take the field, since they are rivals in the immediate vicinity some good may even come to the Metlakatla Christian Church in the end.

Religion: Any way the Lord has promised to make all things work together for good to them that love the Lord and I am sure that there (are) very many people now at Metlakatla that love the Lord and are not thinking of themselves, and I am sure the Lord will remember them although their names are not known to the world.

Criticizes Marsden: It would seem as though the Govt. should favor the continuance of the Metlakatla Christian Church in preference (preference) to either of the others, but Marsden has done so many dirty things to help Lopp in taking the property from the mission and in getting LAND TITLE Petitions signed making it appear that it was the wish of the people, that so long as Lopp is in charge Marsden will have a large influence.

Commercial Co. facing Crisis: I do not know what the prospect is for Marsden and Lopp keeping their hold, but I hear that the Commercial Co. is facing a crisis, that they have a large amount credited out not only for merchandise but that in order to make an appearance of prosperity Lopp had urged the building of new houses and had sold building material on credit and now the people are hard up and cannot pay and as the Com. Co. has suspended payment of dividends many of the stockholders are refusing to pay their debts and demanding that the Co. take their stock in payment, but the prospects are better for the operation of the Cannery next year and that would greatly help Lopp.

Investigation: If their (there) is to be an investigation this is the time for it. Mr. Lopp is working the old scheme that he has always worked, that is to investigate himself and has had the Governor of Alaska here, in fact went to Juneau and came down with and took him over to Metlakatla. I heard that the Governor called at the Chronicle office and that some one there told him that it would be only fair for him to see Mr. Strong before having anything to say in public about the Christian Mission and that the Governor acted accordingly and will see Mr. Strong and you in Washington.

I wish to repeat again what I have said often before that in case of any fair minded person being sent here to make an investigation the Metlakatla Christian Mission has nothing whatever to fear. I know all of these people intimately, in fact I consider that I had in some ways a better opportunity to know them intimately than anyone else as I was more intimately associated with them for six years than any one else as their attending Physician and I am sure that (Mr. Lopp and Marsden could not make any showing in such an investigation compared with the interests that would naturally be arrayed against them since Mr. Lopp has always played favorites with the small Marsden faction to the detriment of all others.)

Citizenship
Reservation
Mining
claims
Laws
Then Ex. Governor Wickersham has recently made an address to the Alaska Native Brotherhood on the status of the Natives in Alaska and told them that they could never be citizens as long as they had anything to do with the Reservation and they feel disgraced and humiliated and blame it to the reservation. Then White men have been locating mining claims on the Reservation and it is said that that was one thing that took the Governor to Metlakatla to see something about throwing all of the island open to white people except the comparatively level portion west of Purple Mountain. Of course this looks like rubbing it in on the Natives to debar them from the privilege (privilege) of the U. S. land laws because they are on a reservation and then take such parts of the reservation as might have some value on account of minerals and give it to white people.

Newspaper
Article
In addition to this is the fact as shown by the course pursued by the Ed. of the Chronicle in advising the Governor and in printing the article that I am sending you that there is a very large sympathy among almost all classes and certainly among the best class of white people for the Metlakatla Christian Mission.

Although the Governor did not say anything in public about the Mission (Mission) yet of course Mr. Lopp did his best to prejudice (prejudice) him against it, since he is irretrievably committed to its destruction in order to save himself.

Favor
Episcopal
Church
Church
Army
I think you know that there is a faction among the Metlakatla people that favor the Episcopalian church. I think Benson is the most active one, but as you know others have been feeling around in that direction. Benson has just returned from Seattle where it is said that he had a conference with the Bishop and asked him to organize a Church Army at Metlakatla, and the Bishop told him that he could not do so but that Collinson would have to do it. Perhaps that will be the last of that.

It is said also that Benson told the Bishop that he must send a white missionary to Metlakatla before Christmas. It is also said that the Church Army - or calling themselves the Church Army - would use the Church on Wednesday evening when the prayer meeting of the Christian Church had been accustomed to meet. The Hudsons told us this but said that they would go on with the Sunday Morning service just as they had been doing and also with the S. S.

Wills
I am telling all these things thinking they might interest you, but in a way they are trifling compared with some things that the Metlakatla Christian Church has weathered. We are getting a dozen copies of Mr. Duncan's will and are going to emphasize some of the things in it to some of the people over there and also that the only way that they can ever benefit by it is to exactly carry out its provisions and do exactly what it says and that no one but the trustees have any authority to say what shall be done with the money and that in using the money the Trustees will also do what the will says &c. &c.

Ketchikan Alaska - Dec. 5th 1921

Mr. H. S. Wellcome - Arlington Hotel - Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Wellcome - We called on Mr. Thos. N. Strong while in Portland. He gave us a copy of a telegram in which a Mr. Williams was mentioned in connection with Mr. H. C. Strong and Dr. Myers as Trustees. Mr. Thos. N. Strong seemed to think that some one had been appointed (appointed) in his place. I told him that it might be the name was used instead of your name which was probably what was meant.

We have met all the Elders, most of them while on their way home from B. C. but John Hudson and Benson who were not with the other Elders at that time have both been to see us since. We have also met some of the others of the people.

Having been away from here for three years we have obtained a different perspective of the situation since coming here and agree with you that the only thing to be considered at the present time is the question of the ATTITUDE of the Govt. to the Mission and the people, since if that was satisfactorily adjusted all details and minor matters would be easily adjusted.

I also see that the minor matters cannot (cannot) even be mentioned until the general situation is disposed of in some way.

I am afraid our coming here will not be advantageous in proportion to the expense, but we will do the best we can. I think since coming here that it is best for us to make it very explicit that we are here only as visitors and that our stay will be limited. Probably it will be best for us some time soon to state that we will not be here longer than a certain date. I thought before coming that we should secure a room but I am afraid that it might look like we were here for more than a visit.

I do not see much change in the situation since we were here before. I think time has shown just as it was sure to that the contention of the Govt. about the ownership of everything being in the Govt. was not only wrong as principle having no just basis but was foolish as a basis for dealing with the situation by the Govt. and is untenable logically and fatal as a precedent if the policy (policy) was to be to encourage (encourage) just and righteous dealings among the people and between the people and the Govt. and (and) is in direct opposition to the policy (policy) of the Govt. in its dealings with the Natives on all of the other reservations in the U. S. and is not such a method as could ever be satisfactory among the people of any community.

For instance the last time (time) Mr. Lopp was here - a few days ago - he left orders that The Presbyterians should have the morning service and the Christian Church the evening service on one Sunday and that the order should be reversed on the following Sunday. This order is based upon a number of inconsistencies to say nothing of false assumptions.

One inconsistency is that if the Church belongs to the community and is to be administered by the Govt. there should be

effect of entirely ignoring all other rights if the principle acted upon is that the church belongs to the community.

Church
It has been a principle with the Govt. not to interfere with religious matters. Another principle has been that a church belonged to the Denomination that conducted its services and that others, although contributing to either its building or support afterwards did not acquire any right to the building or to be heard in regard to the conduct of the services.

Another principle has been that members leaving any church and joining or becoming members of another church could not lay any claim to the property of the church they have left.

Mr. Lopp has superseded all of the customs of all religious denominations based upon these principles, by substituting for them a principle that it would be impossible of (to) act upon and do justice to all or even any of the interested (interested) parties since no religious services can be efficiently conducted in the irregular (irregular) and uncertain manner which he has prescribed.

Church
But the supposition that the Church belong (belongs) to the community is without foundation. It was built like other churches by private contribution. Probably only a comparatively few people gave towards it and those in very unequal amounts. Mr. Marsden who stands to profit more by this arrangement than (than) any one else did nothing and was not even identified with the Metlakatla people then or for many years afterwards, but had married into another tribe and lived at Saxman with his wife's people.

If Mr. Lopp is looking for precedent he is still worse off as the Govt. has in all cases refused to sponsor any one church which is what is being done in this case since the most numerous church at Metlakatla and the one instrumental (instrumental) in building the Church building has just completed repairs on the Church Building amounting to three or four thousand dollars, the Presbyterian church having a much smaller (smaller) membership and being mostly persons formerly belonging to the Christian Church is the church now claiming the right to half of the use of the house.

If Mr. Lopp should seek to bolster up his contention by referring it to the adjudication of other churches he would most certainly fail since most all of the other churches have Church buildings on Govt. Reservations and are very jealous of such rights as they have. They would most certainly (certainly) never consent to pool them and turn all over to the Govt. for such a fanciful distribution as Mr. Lopp has inaugurated (inaugurated) at Metlakatla.

Especially since if it was carried to its logical conclusion the most unenlightened and the most irreligious would have the same right to be heard and the same amount of influence in the result as the most faithful and consistent Christian.

Ana (And) so on and on and on the Govt. having through Com. with Mr. Duncan and the people when

what Com. Dawson promised.

Reservations It cannot be said that it is an attempt on the part of the Govt. to deal with all reservation situations according to the same principles, because on all other Reservations the People are encouraged (encouraged) to look forward to individual responsibility but at Metlakatla there has been inaugurated (inaugurated) a system of paternalism never thought of by the Govt. in any other place even among the most untutored savages on any reservation in the U. S. even fifty years ago when the policy of the Govt. was comparatively undeveloped.)

Elders Church Army We have made arrangements to go over to Metlakatla next Saturday and stay until Monday. I think most of the Elders have mixed up somewhat with the Church Army but I think it is mostly Vanity - because they can wear the badge and pride and foolishness but some have not had anything to do with it. I do not think Bishop Rowe will make any move just now at Metlakatla. Mrs. Molyneux was up to Mr. Strenche to call upon us and I judge from what she says that they do not see that it would be best to do so now.

Church I think the move the Prsbyterians (Presbyterians) are making will do more to consolidate the Christian Church than otherwise at the present time.

Also nothing so far interferes with the Christian Church having full control of the S. S. and as I am all the time looking for the hand of the Lord to be stretched out over that little helpless flock this is where I seem to see it now.

Case Favorable Mrs. Molyneux is about swamped there being so many Metlakatlans here, and she has invited Mrs. Minthorn to help her but I think we must be very careful and Mrs. Minthorn has a very large amount of experience to fall back upon in such matters and while we might in some way try to excuse ourselves if we did not do much good while we are here we would feel very bad indeed if we should do anything to make matters more difficult, especially as I feel that in spite of all of the complications the case looks to me as though it will certainly come out in your favor and that you will "COME OFF MORE THAN CONQUEROR".

(I look at the absurd wrong and foolishness of what they have done with what seems to me only selfish motives and at the failure that will naturally come to it and is coming to it even now as I hear that they are very anxious about the smallness of the school and the dissatisfaction of the people whom they have fed on chaff.

Testimony And then think of the sixty long years of Mr. Duncan's self-sacrificing life and your disinterested effort to keep the results of his labors from being lost, and last of all of the from 100 to 200 really devoted christians, there for the time being buffeted and bewildered and that their cause is absolutely just and righteous, I

H

Ketchikan Alaska Dec. 9th 1921

Mr. H. S. Wellcome - Arlington Hotel Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Wellcome. I see some of the people from Metlakatla every day the Elders were at Saxman and here in Ketchikan last Sunday holding services. From what I hear there was nothing objectionable in them. I think they have toned down somewhat. I do not think there will be any more radical movement.

They have only one more place to go, that is Kassan, and then they will be through for this year with their revival work. I think they have heard from several sources that their influence would not be enhanced by imitating the S. A. or C. A.

The Hudsons, Andrew Usher, Benj. Haldane, and others have done all they could to discourage it, and yet tried not to be too critical. In fact, I think they have shown very good judgment and a Christian spirit. I think Moses has come in for some severe criticism and some ridicule for his bumptious talk and ways.

The fact that he has appointed himself as the one and only successor of Mr. Duncan, and sole adviser for all the people and the Trustees and also his customary attitude of superiority has earned him the opposition of nearly all of his people. Of course Moses has been faithful (faithful) to the cause of his people as against the unwarranted usurpations of the Govt. Agents, and in that way he has also earned the opposition of the Agents of the Govt. so that he is almost without friends.

I think about the best way to deal with him is to take but little notice of him and leave him to the fate that he has brought upon himself. I think there is but little if any doubt that Mr. Lopp had in mind the idea of attaching the Governor to his cause and getting him to commit himself against the Christian Church and it seems that Marsden had given out something like that as it is his custom to do, but several persons here seem to have made it a point to see the Governor before he went to Metlakatla and advised him to hear both sides before making any public statement.

Among those that I have heard of advising given this kind of advice (advice) were Mr. Heckman, Mr. Barbour, The Editor of the Chronicle and Mrs. Molyneux. Probably there were others. The interest taken in affairs at Metlakatla by the Episcopalians, whatever the motive, is a check on the assumption of the Presbyterians, that everything naturally belonged to them.

I think it would be a good idea if possible to have some prominent Methodist, and Adventist and perhaps other Church members see the Governor. It seems to me they would all oppose the intervention of any church where there was already a good work being done, especially where it was being carried on by the Natives themselves.

I think it is customary among the different denominations not to waste

Church locations (locations) and removed to Saxman. Dr. Jackson who was Agent of the Bureau of Education for Alaska at that time as well as the active Agent of the Presbyterian Church got the Govt. to build a school house there and establish a Govt. school. The Presbyterian Church built a Church building and a large Parsonage and organized a Church and put a minister and a Doctor there &c. &c. but they have long since abandoned the place and the Adventists have now undertaken the work there.

The Presbyterians moved their Minister to Metlakatla where there was a successful work in operation and have now for several years done all they could to supersede and absorb it without succeeding, although only the Natives were carrying on the work. All of this should be opposed by all denominations engaged in Missionary work since expense is duplicated and a vicious precedent established and confusion and disorder has resulted.

I have not written to the Trustees since the Natives ask me if I am hearing from them and I think under the circumstances it is better for me to be able to tell them that I am not receiving letters from them.

We expect to go to Metlakatla tomorrow if it is not too stormy and I will write after that.

Natives I think you know that Dec. and Jan. are the two months when the Natives everywhere give themselves over to talk, and so of course extremes are likely to occur at such a time. After Jan. they begin to think about the work of the coming year and to prepare for it and it will be especially so this year as they are short of everything, so I think after that things will quiet down, in fact I think the critical time has passed now for this year as the radicals have shot their charge and it has not hit any mark and they are somewhat disappointed and will take time to concoct some other spectacular thing but not before next year. I think I told you in another letter that the Governor expects to see Mr. Strong and you in Washington in January. I have some sick calls every day. Have sent for a stock of Medicine.

Your friend

(Signed) H. J. Minthorn

H

Metlakatla Alaska - Dec. 12th 1921

Mr. H. S. Wellcome - Arlington Hotel Washington, D.C.

Arrival at Metlakatla
Dear Mr. Wellcome: We arrived here last evening having left Ketchikan at 2 P.M. the 10th. We had to anchor one night on account of rough sea and so although it was in a safe place it was not very comfortable in a small cabin with a gas engine and coal stove in the same place and seven people and only any kind of a place where more than two could lie down at the same time.

I always get seasick and that was the worst part of it. It was Benson's boat and he is a careful sailor. Early Sunday morning he tried going around the point (three miles from Metlakatla) but could not and went back into the Lagoon where was a scow belonging to the Cannery Co. and some other property and Eli Tait was staying on the scow as guard with two small children.

As you know he is a cripple and can scarcely walk and may not see any one sometimes for months. Mrs. Minthorn and the rest of the crew held a service, and then we tried the point again and got around but it was something awful, but the Lord helping us we got through. And Mrs. Minthorn attended the evening service but I was seasick and did not go.

Church Army
Wills
There were many there and several talked, and all seemed glad to have us come. From what I hear things are in very good condition. Some have allied themselves with the Church Army over in B. C. under Collison. They said they would in that way be licensed to conduct services. I called their (their) attention to the last clause on page 1 of Mr. Duncan's will in which it is said that the services must be kept free from sectarian influences and told them that the Trustees had no choice in a plain case like that, and could not use the money to help them if they worked under another name than that of the Christian Church.

I think you know how Mr. Duncan avoided all parade and show. You also know that the things like that are very dear to an Indian's heart, but of course they are not all that way. Also the novelty will wear off with some of them, after while, but the bulk of the membership of the Christian Church are well satisfied to go on with the old way.

Church
I do not think the Bishop is really encouraging the members of the Christian Church to join either the Episcopal Church or the Church Army. Also there is of course some doubt as to whether the Church Army would be considered a Sect. But I do not think any more will join it. I think the Trustees have pursued the right course in all cases and that since no money was paid out to them but was actually refused to them that everything is all right and I feel as though I should say that I think it really is very remarkable how well they have conducted the service so far.

Moses takes
I think I ought to say that I think Moses has taken an unfortunate stand in several ways, but so far as I can see he has not the support of any one. It seems that he wrote a letter and tried to get some to sign it but no one would sign it. I have had several calls from

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H.S. Wellcome 12-12-21

-page 2-

Church

to respond to any calls during that time. I fitted a man with glasses today and think there will be others. It looks good to see the church in good repair again. I do not think the Presbyterians are liable to use the Church. In my talk with Pervance I told him that even among white people there were many people that found it hard to like another Church than the one that they were born in. well enough to join it, and he remarked that he was born a Methodist and did not feel like changing.

Seizures
of
Property

There are so many influences at work here that it is difficult to know just what to do. But in my mind I always refer back that there was not the least excuse for the Government taking the Mission property and that it has in no way profited the Govt. and was a very great disadvantage to the Natives and was inexcusable and unjust and that some time the Govt. would see it and right itself as near as possible.

I Think we will come over once more and stay about one week, and that with what we can do at Ketchikan will be all that we can do so far as I can see.

The mail goes out tomorrow and I will send this then and will write more again. It is difficult for me to write here where there are so many people.

Very truly your friend

(Signed) H. J. Minthorn.

P.S.

"Good Solid
Work" at
Methodist

I am writing under unfavorable circumstances - and will write more fully when I get back to Ketchikan. But summing up what I want to say and I will give the reasons for it some other time is that we find a good solid work going on here the continuation of Mr. Duncan's work. You can feel assured that nothing at all material has happened so far to at all discredit the work since it has been committed to the entire care of the Natives but on the contrary it is more to the credit of Mr. Duncan's memory than anything that he did during his lifetime that it is now shown by a three years trial under many trying and adverse conditions that he built on the rock and the work is enduring.

Metlakantla, Alaska. December 14th, 1921.

H

Dear Mr. Wellcome:-

I think you will be interested in an account of the reception which was tendered to the Dr. and me last evening. About four o'clock slips of paper were distributed around town to the "faithful", the members of the Christian Church, containing the friendly though formal invitation to come to the home of Mrs. Matthew Eaton at six o'clock.

We were met at the door by good Josiah Guthrie who seated all that came according (according) to their rank and station or age, in the benches about the room. When all had arrived the number was around one hundred, it may have been more.

Benjamin Haldane acted as interpreter and presided over the programme. You would go far, I am sure, to find another company who could so quickly and quietly come together with such beaming faces and gentle voices. I find it to be a rule among them here that it is bad form indeed for a speaker or singer to have a rough or heavy tone.

Their idea of what is the correct thing is that the voice of the speaker must be soft, low, and clear. They convey the impression of suppressed power. Two of the elders who are inclined to be unruly in this respect, Moses H. and John H. have been reproved for the use of heavy tones and an unkind voice in speaking. This was explained to me by Mr. Edward H.

There was a goodly number of young people in the company and they seemed to have a pleasant evening. The interpreter informed us at the opening that this was the work of the good kind mothers and sisters of the church and Sunday School and it was to give Dr. and Mrs. Minthorn an opportunity to see all the people of the church without the trouble of going about to find them.

Mrs. Helena Howard spoke first on behalf of the church and Sunday School Committee and welcomed us. Then they called on the Dr. and his response was full of good suggestions with some pleasantry which left them beaming with good feeling and thrilled with thoughts of work and responsibility. He described his visit to the Japanese steamer on which Dr. Gertrude Minthorn first sailed to India, and told of his visit to it at the Seattle Dock and how he asked her if she thought the little men could manage the great vessel.

At the close of her journey she wrote to him that through the long weeks in heavy seas and through severe storms, the little Japs worked and won their way across the great deep to a safe harbor at the end of the journey. Then he said to them, those little Japs did not give up and call on some white man to come and do it for them. They have a brave spirit and are determined to do as good work as any people in the world.

Now the Metlakantla people can do as well as the little Japs, I am sure. They will not sit down and say we can never run the Church Mission alone. We must have some white men to do it for us. You have some

Mr. H. S. Welles 12-14-21

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But we told him there was a mistake for we were going there and we knew of two or three hundred good christians who were holding services in the church and were keeping the house in repair and had a good Sunday School. So all the people at the table heard of the good work of the natives and now they must let the world see that they can honor Mr. Duncan's name and keep his work going on as he used to do it for that was the best way to do in the services, to conduct them as he showed them how.

When I spoke it was an exhortation from the Book to let the Holy Spirit dwell in their heart and teach and guide them. The man without the Holy Spirit's controlling power will be a failure in the end. The man who is wise enough to let Him come and live within his heart will be given wisdom and honor of God and his work will be a success because God plans it and works it out through him.

We prayed much at home for the people and church in Metlakahtla and asked God to send a shepherd to them, and then we found that the Lord had appointed His Holy Spirit to be their Shepherd. Whenever a man goes out on the water in his boat, the Holy Spirit goes with him to protect him.

Several men with folded arms and serious faces bowed their heads in assent to this and murmured an amen. So we exhorted them to look to Him and be obedient to Him. Then we told the young people of dangers on shore worse than the angry waters, and how the Holy Spirit would keep them away from places of sin if they would heed his warnings.

Joseph Hayward spoke for the elders and it was very good. He said he was surprised to hear us say that no white man was coming now to be their leader. We had laid the burden upon themselves and they must do it well. Moses Dawson gave a voluntary speech in which he claimed as christians that we were brother and sister to the people of Metlakahtla. Mary Hudson and others sang a hymn and then the refreshments were passed by four young girls and two older ladies, and it was as dainty and palatable as many I have seen on similar occasions among our own folks.

Dr. was delighted with the spirit and freedom and good will. He said it was the nicest thing of the kind that he had ever seen in Metlakahtla. Mary Hudson tells us that our coming has brought an entirely new spirit to the people. We are surely glad to have some good come of it and feel an assurance that God is drawing near to bless His people and to give them the victory. We are having many callers and are going to all the homes of our old friends.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Matilda Atkinson Minthorn.

Metlakatla Alaska Dec. 17" 1921

Mr. H.S. Wellcome Arlington Hotel - Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wellcome.

We have been here about one week and expect to go back to Ketchikan about the 20". I want to write you about several things but while I am here I feel as though I should keep my mind open and free from other things as much as I can in order to try to get as true a picture of the situation as possible and then write more fully some other time.

So far as the Christian Church is concerned I think the situation is good. I think much better than might have been expected. There is as in most other places some Jealousy, Envy Scheming &c. But the fact stands out prominently that there is here a good well conducted, strong, Church and S. S. and an unusually (unusually) good Choir. And I think it will continue to function as it is for awhile.

There are two men that are liable to make trouble but there are so many level-headed ones that I think nothing very unfortunate will happen. I had written Moses before coming up here scolding him for the course he was taking and he wrote a very disagreeable answer. But he seems to have quieted down and they say he is doing better. I have not paid much attention to him.

I talked with him for a few minutes and told him that some time before I left I wanted to talk with him for a long time about his Joining the S. A. the C. A. and the Episcopal church but he has not come to hear what I have to say to him and if he does not come I shall not say any more to him.

Of course John Hayward is if anything worse. In both cases it is about the same cause pride ambition greed and selfishness &c. Both of them are very much in debt and hard up even for the necessities of life and as an Indian can always get something to eat out of the sea and is in no danger of starvation if able to get about, I think the best course is to just let them alone. Their influence is small as the same rules about influence holds good among Indians as among white people. "Nothing succeeds like success," and John Hudson caught one hundred and fifty thousand Humpies this season beside other Salmon, Halibut &c. so that he is admired and respected and has more influence than dozens like the others, and he keeps himself in the background.

While Benson very much admires the Episcopalians and the Bishop coming here and putting up at his house pleased him very much yet he is not in any way doing anything that is injuring the Christian Church yet that I can see, although I think if the Bishop should send a missionary here to organize an Episcopal Church Benson would join it at once mainly because he is tired of the foolishness of Moses John Hayward and such as they, and because he thinks the Christian church should have a head. Which is true of ANY Church.

But of course the Bishop is not going to send anyone here under present circumstances, for he realizes that the Christian (Christian) Church has made a wonderful showing and most of them have been real Martyrs for the faith that was committed (committed) to them by Father Duncan and from

H. S. Wellcome 12-17-21

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refused to go to the reception after they had invited us and after we had gone, according to all Indian ideas of propriety, we should return the compliment.

I have also asked the Trustees to give \$10.00 each to 32 old and poor people which I hope they will do. In making the list I did not confine myself to the Christian Church although since the Govt. Agent gave most of the work to others and there were therefore more destitute among the members of the Christian Church than among the others, I thought that it would be hard to pass by any needy ones for ANY reason.

I do not think there will be any move at present about any one using the Christian Church, except the rightful owners.. I am treating some sick and have fitted some glasses. I do not know whether we should return here after Christmas or not. I am in hopes we will hear something from you or the Trustees that will help us to decide.

The annual election is, I think next week. The Govt. party held a caucus and nominated candidates and then Pervance, Marsden and others went into the other caucus and got two candidates nominated there for each office so that the vote of that party will be divided and so will not stand any chance of winning, although they are in the majority.

I beleive (believe) in party politics but these people never knew anything about politics until the Govt. took charge here and if there is any good in parties there should be an even chance, and now the Democrats have had their way ever since the Govt. took charge here and it is only fair if the Govt. agents are going to play politics in a place like this where it is in the educational stage, that the Republicans should have the field an equal length of time.

I hear that there will be a move to throw open all of the Island except a small portion on the west end. At the risk of being tiresome I will say a word about that. When the Govt. took charge here the first act was to take an ax and break the lock off of the Cannery door and put a Govt. lock in its place without any apology excuse or legal process.

These people had heard Commissioner Dawson say while standing under the folds of the U. S. Flag on the beach the day they arrived here that the U. S. had a high sense of honor and would protect them in their rights &c. &c.

Then another Govt. Agent as I have said comes and takes forcible possession of property that they had seen produced by Mr. Duncan and held and used by him and on which he had paid taxes &c. &c. That act produced the same effect here that it would have produced in any white community. That is it destroyed their confidence in the Govt. but when soon after the letter came from the Govt. Agent that the Govt. claimed the right to do the same thing to their homes as it had done to the Mission property, and notlong after the so called Metlakatla Council of which the Govt. Agent was the main entity, passed an ordinance that if any person staid away from his home for a certain length of time the house would no longer be his even to use. Even the most stupid of the Metlakatians

(?) every arrangement made for their acquiring title to them, (?) excuse for carrying on the work of the Bureau of Education is (?) benefit the natives. What was done here and loudly proclaimed was to substitute COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP for INDIVIDUAL OWNERSHIP. This policy was not confined to the ownership of Real Estate but was carried into the business relationships of the community and the Govt. instituted a Commercial Company and tried in every way to induce the members of the Community to abandon their individual enterprizes (enterprises) and invest their capital in the Govt. Store.

So far as destroying individual initiative and the existence of stores owned - some of them for many years - by the natives the Govt. Agents have almost fully succeeded.

The Govt. Store was subsidized by an arrangement by which the Native Labor for the Cannery was contracted from the Govt. Store at a rate higher than paid to the natives by the Govt. store, so that every old woman and child employed in the Cannery - and most of the native labor was of this class - had to make a forced contribution to the support of the Govt. store for which they received no return, while the richer members of the community invested their money in the stock of the Commercial Co. and received dividends as high as 20% which were really paid by the poor through the connivance and help of the Govt.

This is only a specimen. The sawmill which the Govt. Agent claimed was taken possession (possession) of by him for the benefit of the community was sold to the Govt. store for a nominal sum - although worth several thousands of dollars - and that nominal sum was never collected from the Govt. store so that it was virtually a gift to the Govt. store.

Hardware, such as pipe, bolts, shafting, although stated in a letter to belong to the mission property as being called personal property was allowed to be taken by the Govt. Agent and used in adding auxillary (auxiliary) steam power to the sawmill and thus given to the Commercial Co. But the story is too long to repeat here. What I want to get at is this.

The Govt. has a fine school building here and so far as I know a good school, although many of the people are leaving and if this community business is continued most of the people will eventually leave, and the investment in the school house will be a loss.

Instead of the school being thus destroyed it should be made more effective and reach a larger number of people. To do this the Govt. should stop this Community business, which was always the bane of native society and administer the laws as they are applied to other (other) reservations, that is:

First, they should send an entirely new people to fill all of the Govt. positions and authorize them to announce that the same policy in regard to ownership of property would be applied here as at other

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21
12-21

Ketchikan, Alaska. Dec. 21st, 1921

Mr. H. S. Wellcome % Arlington Hotel - Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Wellcome

We arrived home from Metlakatla
last night after being there ten days. I think things are

11-21

Document No.

Folder No.

H

CROSS REFERENCE

Letter from H. J. Minthorn to H. S. Wellcome,
dated 11-26-21, is enclosure to letter from
H. S. Wellcome to B. L. Myers, dated 12-7-21.

See J file.

H. S. Wellcome 12-21-21

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Now that wool and hides are so very cheap probably something of that kind could be done and more than likely a little study of the problem would result in other industries for the winter time. Anyway idleness is the cause of most of the trouble, instead of giving (remainder of this sentence has been crossed out), wool for stockings is cheap now and then anything as is being done now (very properly too) give them some yarn and let them knit stockings and give half of the stockings to pay for the wool, and sell the stockings coming to the fund and reinvest the money in more wool and let them have that in the same way again this could be done in regard to Sweaters and even knit underwear also, all of which they can do now if they were only put at it.

Mrs. Pruell showed me the telegram from Mr. Strong about Christmas and I am enclosing a sheet showing how she did in regard to it, which I think was very good and needed to be done as it is a bad year for them and it was quite necessary to do something.

I am hoping to hear something from the Trustees before long as it seems as though it would not be worth while either for me or the Trustees for us to stay here after January. Moses had gone out trapping when we left. No one approves of his way of doing and it is just as well for him to remain in the background for a while at least, even if he has somewhat of a hard time his ideas of his being the whole thing are not practical and will only work harm. Of course he will be heard from but I do not see any other way.

Of course he has done good and should have credit for it but what he seems to want to do now will not work for a moment. If things change with the Govt. many things can be changed here also but until then the only thing is to sit tight.

I am enclosing you one of the official ballotts (ballots). Marsden and Pervants held their caucus and made a sett (set) of nominations - Marsden for Secretary which is the only office that counts. They then went into the other caucus and engineered the nomination of Moses which was the weakest candidate that the Christian Church had and then put up a third candidate to catch any stray votes that might possibly go to Moses, so the ticket is a sure thing for Marsden. It is only fair that Republicans should have _____ (?) of the political education of these people awhile if it is proper for the Govt. agent to engage in politics actively as he does here for awhile.

Very Truly your friend

(Signed) H. J. Minthorn.

Statement of donation to Metlakatla Christian Church and
Sunday School Christmas 1921 also to Widows - Old and -
helpless.

1	Chas. Gibbons - Paralyzed $\frac{1}{2}$ Sk flour 10" Sugar 2" Coffee 3" Bacon 2" Beans	1, 20	76¢	64¢	1,29	15¢
					\$ 4, 03	
2	Helena Howard - Widow old				4, 03	
3	Simon Keith - Old man				4, 03	
4	Ellen Hanbury - Old Widow				4, 03	
5	Joanna Marsden - Old Widow				4, 03	
6	Susan Reese - Old Widow				4, 03	
7	Kate Faber, Old Widow				4, 03	
8	Maria Booth, Old Widow				4, 03	
9	Betsy Jurie, Old Widow				4, 03	
10	Mrs. Jacob Scott, Old Widow				4, 03	
11	Mary Ann Jaynes, Old Widow				4, 03	
12	Hager Hewson, Old Widow				4, 03	
13	Martha Hewson Sen, Old Widow				4, 03	
14	Alice Buxton, Old Widow				4, 03	
15	Cecelia Fawcette, Old Widow				4, 03	
16	Isabella Eaton, Old Widow				4, 03	
17	Matilda Buxton, Old Widow				4, 03	
18	Amos Milne, Old Man				4, 03	
19	Alfred Baines, Paralyzed				4, 03	
20	Archie Manson, Old Cripple				4, 03	
21	Eliza Baines, Old Widow				4, 03	
22	Mrs. Alice Mather, Old and Blind				4, 03	
23	Mrs. Frank Allen, Widow in poor health				4, 03	
24	Rebecca Mather, Old Widow				4, 03	
25	Adam Gordon, old crippled man				4, 03	
26	Robert Alford, Blind				4, 03	
27	Mrs. James Campbell, Old Widow				4, 03	
28	Mrs. Job Calvin, Old Widow				4, 03	
29	Nancy Chalmers, Old Widow				4, 03	
30	Josiah Guthrie, Old man, Tuberculosis				4, 03	
31	Ellen Faucett, Old Widow				4, 03	
32	Rufus Thaine, Blind Old man				4, 03	
33	Bertha Dundas, Widow, 2 small children				4, 03	
					\$132, 99	

Quotations of prices the first being by the Ketchikan Merchantile company a wholesale house all being in bulk and the others being seperate (separate) lot put up seperately (separately) and labeled with the name of the person to whom it was to be given, ready for distribution at the Church.

Ketchikan Merchantile Company

Flour 2, 25- Sugar 6, 95- Milk 5, 55-

Bon Marche, Hanson

Flour 7¢ per lb. - Sugar, 10¢ lb. - Milk. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ - Bacon 50¢ lb. - Beans 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ -
Coffee 35¢ - \$4, 86

10% off

Patching and Barrett

Flour 5¢ lb. Sugar 8¢ lb. - Coffee 45¢ lb. - Bacon 45¢ lb. - Beans 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ lb. 4, 46

Otto Anderson

Flour 4, 8 lb. Sugar 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ - Coffee 32 - Bacon 43¢ - Beans 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ lb. (?

If to this bill of \$132.99 - be added the cost of the reception given the Metlakatla Christian Church by H. J. Minthorn and wife at which 120 persons were present being \$ 25.0

BRIMTHORN ONLY.

Document No. 25
Folder No. 261

12-27

COPY

Ketchikan, Alaska.

Dec. 28th, 1921.

Dr. B. L. Myers,
Lathrop Building,
Kansas City, Mo.

H

Dear Mr. Myers:-

Yours of Dec. 7th received with much pleasure. We have been here since Nov. 20th. We were over to Metlakahtla for ten days. We had a stormy voyage going over and had to anchor in Japan Bay over one night. There were seven of us in a little cabin with a gas engine and a coal stove, and only places for two of us to lie down, and I was seasick as I usually am on the water.

I think I must say that we found the Christian Church in quite a successful state of operation, in spite of the fact that they have had no outside help for so long. Probably it is the greatest tribute of all to Mr. Duncan's work, that this church has withstood so many discouragements and is still in successful operation without any experienced leadership three years after his death.

We were here in Ketchikan a few days before we went over to Metlakahtla and met most of the elders who were on their way returning from B.C. where they had been attending some meetings.

From what I heard I think that on the whole it was good for them to go over there although, as you know, they were rather misled last year when they were over, and were made to appear in what I think was a false light, by Archdeacon Collinson, who gave out in public print afterwards that they had returned to the Episcopal Church, etc. I do not think they understood it that way but were rather deceived.

18 EAST FORTY-FIRST STREET
NEW YORK

Document No. 1
Folder No. 2 6 2

October 11th, 1918.

Mr. E. L. Sheehan,
505 American National Bank Bldg.,
Washington, D.C.

H

Dear Mr. Sheehan:-

I have just arrived in New York to-day by the white star steamer "Olympic", and I find awaiting me your letters regarding Dr. Minthorn's grave illness, also your telegram of to-day's date. I have immediately sent a long telegram to Mrs. Minthorn, asking her to keep me constantly informed in regard to the case; also suggesting that Dr. Morgan shall call in consultation medical and surgical experts.

I am greatly obliged to you for having communicated with Mr. Levin, and for sending me the copies of the correspondence, etc. in regard to Dr. Minthorn.

As I have some very urgent and important business matters to attend to in New York, I shall be detained here for a week or more before I can go on to Washington. My present address will be care of The Commodore Hotel, New York, where letters and telegrams will reach me at all times, though my permanent address in New York is always 18 East 41st Street.

I trust that you and all the members of the staff are in good health, and with my best greetings and all good wishes to you all, I remain

Yours very truly,

H. S. Wellcome

Per. M. D.

H

THE WASHINGTON POST: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1922.

SOCIETY

Nelson and Miss Virginia
Norman Brown will be
the ushers will be
mus, Mr. Edward
vents and Lieut.

International medical conference to
be held shortly in Chicago, and has
come here for a visit en route to that
city.

Mrs. Harwood Read, team captain
of the Woman's City club member-
ship drive, will be hostess at tea to-
day at the clubhouse, 22 Jackson
place, from 4 to 5:30.

Assisting Mrs. Read will be mem-
bers of her team—Miss Lottie Hart,
Miss Doan, Miss Maude Budd, Miss
Borah, Miss Nannie Kemp, Miss No-
lan, Miss Twitchel, Miss C. G. Brewer,
Miss Neta Martin and Dr. Rilla
Bryant.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lorentz Steele
have taken an apartment at the
Desaw. They have as their guests
Phelps Brooks, jr., of Balti-
more, and her two small sons. Mrs.
Steele will entertain for Mrs. Brooks
on October 17, with cards.

Cass and Mrs.
tained at a
Wardman
ceiving
orn,

at the dinner, which
under the auspices, a
committee.

New York St

Special to The Washington Post
New York, Oct. 11.—Mr.
ton Gray will leave to-
day for Hot Springs, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart D.
close, Bonnie Crest, their
house, next Monday and co-
Carlton House for the earl-
Mrs. Allen Gouveneur Wel-
tained at luncheon today
Ritz-Carlton for Mrs. William
Burden.

Mrs. Harry Payne Whitne
sail for Europe by the France
Monday and join her daugh-
Paris. They will return in De-
ber.

Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont has
luncheon today at the Marguery
William May Wright and Mrs. Ro-
Goelet.

Mr. and Mrs. John Insley Blair
returned from abroad on the Olympi-
will live at the Carlton House this
winter.

Mrs. David King, Mrs. John J. W-
song and Mrs. Harold Brown, her
from Newport, are at the Belmont.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth O'Brien, now
in the South, will return to New York
from their wedding trip on October
20.

DR. H. J. MINTHORN DEAD

Veteran Educator and Missionary
Foster-Father of Herbert Hoover.

Portland, Oreg., Oct. 11.—Dr. H. J.
Minthorn, Oregon educator, uncle and
foster father of Secretary of Com-
merce Herbert Hoover, died today.
Dr. Minthorn came here recently for
an operation from Metlakatla,
Alaska, where he has made his home
for some years.

Physician, educator, minister of the
Friends' church, missionary to the In-
dians and civil war veteran, Dr. Min-
thorn had a varied career. He came
to Oregon in 1882 to take charge of
an Indian school at Forest Grove.

Dr. Minthorn's first wife was a sis-
ter of the mother of Herbert Hoover,
and when the latter's parents died,
he took the boy into his own home.

70-11
Washington, D. C. Oct. 11, 1922.

Document No. 1
Folder No. 262

Mr. H. S. Wellcome; (Wellcome)
18 East 41st St.,
New York City.

Dr. Morgan, Portland Sanitarium, wires Minthorn died four AM

E. L. Sheehan

505 Am Natl Bank Bldg

H

Washington, D. C. Oct. 11, 1922.

22
Document No. 1
Folder No. 262

GN.
(Morgan)
Dr. Morgan,
c/o Portland Sanitarium,
Portland, Oregon.

Deepest condolences behalf Wellcome and Metlakatla staff extended
Mrs. Minthorn.

E. L. Sheehan

505 Am. Natl. Bank Bldg.

H

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT COM'L NAT'L BANK BLDG., COR. 14TH & G STS., N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C. ALWAYS OPEN

CHC189 5

FY PORTLAND ORG 825A OCT 11 1922

E. L. SHEEHAN

305 WASHINGTON NAT'L BANK BLDG WASHINGTON DC

DR MENTHORN DIED FOUR AM

DR MORAN

150P

Document No.
Folder No. 262

Washington, D. C.
Oct. 11, 1922.

10-11

Document No. 1

Folder No. 262

C. E. S. Vollicone,
18 East 41st St.,
New York City, N.Y.

Advice from Portland indicates Minthorn failing rapidly Will not
live more than two days.

E. L. Sheehan

H

(505 Am. Natl. Bank Bldg.)

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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RECEIVED AT COMMERCIAL NAT'L BANK BLDG., 14th & G STS., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. ALWAYS OPEN.

CHC66 20 NITE

BY PORTLAND ORG 10

622 OCT 11 AM 4 52

E L SHEEHAN

403

305 AMERICAN NATL BANK BLDG WASHINGTON DC

DR MINTHORN'S CONDITION MUCH WORSE DOUBT IF HE LIVES MORE THAN
FORTY EIGHT HOURS AT MOST HAS FAILED RAPIDLY TODAY

DR MORAN.

Document No. 1
Folder No. 262

H

Washington, D. C. Oct. 10, 1922.

P e r s o n a l

Document No. 1
Folder No. 262

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

Herewith is quoted the latest advice from Dr. Moran, Portland Sanitarium, Portland, Oregon, regarding Doctor Minthorn's condition:

"12:57 A M., Oct. 10, 1922.

"Dr. Minthorn's condition about the same. Has been taking some nourishment, the last few days. While extremely weak, is still holding his own. Will keep you informed regarding his condition."

I interpret this as the most favorable report since the operation.

Very truly yours,

E. L. Shoshan

Mr. E. S. Wellcome,
16 E. 41st St., N.Y.C.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	H L
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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	H L
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RECEIVED AT COMMERCIAL NAT'L BANK BLDG., 14th & G STS., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. ALWAYS OPEN

CHC 52 30 NITE

FY, PORTLAND ORG 9

E L SHEEHAN

188

Document No. 1

Folder No. 262

305 AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK BLDG WASHINGTON DC.

DR MINTHORNS CONDITION ABOUT THE SAME HAS BEEN TAKING SOME
NOURISHMENT THE LAST FEW DAYS WHILE EXTREMELY WEAK IS STILL HOLDING
HIS OWN WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED REGARDING HIS CONDITION

D. MORAN.

H

305 American National Bank Bldg.

Washington, D. C.
October 9, 1922.

2-7-22
10-9
H

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

No word yesterday or today concerning Dr. Minthorn's condition, the last advice being that he was holding his own and had taken nourishment for the first time.

I assume that "no news is good news" and I shall not write you further until I hear from Portland.

Yours very truly,

E. L. Schoon

Mr. H.S. Wellcome,
Snow Hill Buildings,
London, E.C.,
England, E. C.

Cop- to
18 E 41st St., N.Y.C.

Washington, D. C.
Oct. 9, 1922.

22
10-11-22
H

Mrs. Matilda Minthorn,
c/o Dr. Morgan,
Portland Sanitarium,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Mrs. Minthorn:

The three telegrams which Dr. Morgan sent were very much appreciated. I did not anticipate when I wired, that he would wire daily reports, but I assume that the gravity of the situation prompted him to do so.

I took the liberty of communicating the information contained in each of these three telegrams to the private secretary of the Hon. Herbert Hoover, as I felt he would be interested, and his office thanked me very kindly.

I assume that "NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS". The last telegram indicated that Dr. Minthorn was taking nourishment. I hope that means he is past the crisis, and on the way to recovery.

I also have communicated with Mr. Wellcome's New York Manager by mail, and I don't know whether or not he cabled Mr. Wellcome, in fact don't know whether Mr. Wellcome is in London, or en route to this country or in this country, but expect to hear something some time in the near future.

Believe me, I shall be intensely interested in hearing of the progress of Dr. Minthorn as often as you find time to communicate with me, and I know that you will not fail to express to Dr. Minthorn my sincere gratification of hearing good news concerning his condition.

305 American National Bank Bldg.

Washington, D. C.
Oct. 7, 1922.

H

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

Today's telegram regarding Dr. Minthorn is most encouraging, considering the tone of other telegrams received:

"Doctor Minthorn's condition unchanged. Has been holding his own today. Has taken a little nourishment this evening, for the first time."

This message was sent last evening from Portland.

Yours very truly,

E. H. Snodden

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,
Snow Hill Buildings,
London, England.

copy 18 East 41st St.,
New York City.

Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L
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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L
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Document No. 1

Folder No. 262 1922 OCT 7 AM 4 53

CHC 44 21 NITE

FY PORTLAND ORG 6

E L SHEEHAN

370

305 AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK BLDG WASHINGTON DC

DOCTOR MINTHORNS CONDITION UNCHANGED HAS BEEN HOLDING HIS OWN

TODAY HAS TAKEN A LITTLE NOURISHMENT THIS EVENING FOR THE FIRST TIME

DOCTOR MORAN.

H

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L
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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
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RECEIVED AT COMMERCIAL NAT'L BANK BLDG., 14th & B STS., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. ALWAYS OPEN

1922 OCT 6 AM 3 06

CHC 49 30 NL

FY PORTLAND ORG 5

E L SHEEHAN

318

305 AMERICAN NAT'L BANK BLDG WASHINGTON DC

DR MINTHORN CONDITION ABOUT THE SAME EXCEPT THAT HE IS

CONSTANTLY GROWING WEAKER HAS RETAINED NO NOURISHMENT FOR PAST

SIX DAYS STILL CONSCIOUS BUT VERY WEAK WILL ADVISE YOU TOMORROW

DR MORAN.

Document No. 1

Folder No. 262

22
10-6
H

305 American National Bank Building

22
14-5
Washington, D. C. Oct. 6, 1922.

Document No. 1
Folder No. 262

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

I am sure you will be sorry to hear of the latest advice regarding Doctor Minthorn, now in a critical condition at the Portland Sanitarium. I received the following telegram this morning signed by Dr. Kergan:

"Dr. Minthorn condition about the same except that he is constantly growing weaker. Has retained no nourishment for past six days. Still conscious, but very weak. Will advise you tomorrow."

Yesterday information regarding Dr. Minthorn's condition was forwarded to your New York manager, and a copy of this letter is today being sent to your manager in New York City for his information.

Yours very truly,

E. H. Wellcome

R. E. S. Wellcome,
New Mill Buildings,
London, E. C.,
England.

copy c/o Burroughs Wellcome & Co.
18 E. 41st St.,
New York City, E.Y.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L
If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.	

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L
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RECEIVED AT COMMERCIAL NAT'L BANK BLDG., 14th & G STS., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. ALWAYS OPEN

1922 OCT 5 AM 5 26

HC46 33 NL

FY PORTLAND ORG 4

E H SHEEHAN

353

305 AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK BLDG WASHINGTON DC

DOCTOR MINTHORN GRADUALLY FAILING CONDITION CONSIDERABLY WEAKER
THAN YESTERDAY HE IS NOT SUFFERING TO ANY EXTENT MRS MINTHORN
WISHES ME TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR TELEGRAM WILL ADVISE YOU DAILY
CONCERNING HIS CONDITION

DR MORAN.

Document No. 1

Folder No. 262

H

Washington, D. C. Oct. 5, 1922.

Document No. 262

Folder No. 262

H

Dear Mr. Welles:

I wrote you yesterday regarding Dr. Minthorn's critical condition.

I am today in receipt of the following message from Dr. Morgan, who is evidently in attendance and who has been requested to wire by Mrs. Minthorn:

"Portland Oregon, 526 A M Oct. 5, 1922

Address

Doctor Minthorn gradually failing. Condition considerably weaker than yesterday. He is not suffering to any extent. Mrs. Minthorn wishes me to thank you for your telegram. Will advise you daily concerning his condition."

I also prepared a memorandum regarding Dr. Minthorn's connection with the case and his condition, and Mr. Shearer is forwarding same to your New York manager with the suggestion that he cable you if he deemed such action advisable.

I shall write you daily such information as I receive regarding Doctor Minthorn's condition.

Dr. Morgan, and Mrs. Minthorn's address is c/o Portland Sanitarium, Portland, Oregon.

Very respectfully,

E. J. Shearer
E. J. Shearer

Mr. H. B. Welles,
Snow Hill Buildings,
London, E. C.

305 American National Bank Building

Washington, D. C. Oct. 5, 1922

COPY

Document No. 1
Folder No. 262

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

I am sure you will be sorry to hear of the latest advice regarding Doctor Minthorn, now in a critical condition at the Portland Sanitarium. I received the following telegram this morning signed by Dr. Morgan:

"Dr. Minthorn condition about the same except that he is constantly growing weaker. Has retained no nourishment for past six days. Still conscious, but very weak. Will advise you tomorrow."

Yesterday information regarding Dr. Minthorn's condition was forwarded to your New York manager, and a copy of this letter is today being sent to your manager in New York City for his information.

Yours very truly,

E. C. Schuman
E. C. Schuman

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,
Snow Hill Buildings,
London, E. C.
England.

copy c/o Burroughs Wellcome & Co.
16 E. 41st St.,
New York City, N.Y.

C O P Y

Washington, D. C. Oct. 4, 1922.

Document No. 1
Folder No. 262

Mrs. Matilda Minthorn,
c/o Portland Sanitarium,
Portland, Oregon.

Deepest sympathy Advise daily doctor's condition Pray for
speedy recovery

E. S. Sheehan

H

(305 Am. Natl Bank Bldg.)

Ph
E/30

305 American National Bank Building

Washington, D. C.
Oct. 4, 1922.

22
10-4
Document No. 1
Folder No. 262

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,
London, England.

Personal

My dear Mr. Wellcome:

I have, for some time, considered the advisability of writing you, but have hesitated at doing so, but I feel that I should now write you concerning a development which I am sure you will be sorry to hear of.

Dr. Minthorn is critically ill at the Portland, Oregon Sanitarium. I have just received via mail, advice from Mrs. Matilda W. Minthorn, as follows:

"Since dictating the above letter, which was done on board the steamer en route to Seattle, we have arrived in Portland and the Dr. has undergone an operation. His condition, critical from the first, is now considered as beyond relief. This has been copied at his bedside. He has prayed much and longed intensely to recover in order to give his life to working for the building up of the Metlakatians, among whom he has spent a number of years in service, and is greatly beloved by them. We are leaving it all in the hands of our Heavenly Father and may His blessing be upon the outcome."

Immediately upon receipt of this information, I wired
"Mrs. Matilda W. Minthorn,
c/o Portland Sanitarium,
Portland, Oregon.

Deepest sympathy. Advise daily doctor's condition.
Praying for speedy recovery.

E.L. Sheehan"

I felt that you would want some such message sent were you here.

In regard to the case in which you are so deeply interested, Mr. Roman's trip has been eventful. He has uncovered a great deal of new material, and if not useful in presenting the case, it certainly is invaluable to the historian who writes for future.

E. L. Sheehan

Folder No. 2