

7-20-1925

### Minthorn Letters

George Fox University Archives

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/alaskan\\_mission\\_papers](https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/alaskan_mission_papers)

---

#### Recommended Citation

George Fox University Archives, "Minthorn Letters" (1925). *Alaskan Missions Papers*. 31.  
[https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/alaskan\\_mission\\_papers/31](https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/alaskan_mission_papers/31)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Alaskan Missions Collection at Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Alaskan Missions Papers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact [arolfe@georgefox.edu](mailto:arolfe@georgefox.edu).

Document No. 29  
Folder No. 265

4217 Fourth Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

July 20, 1925.

Mrs. Matilda W. Minthorn,  
Metlakahtla, Alaska.

Dear Mrs. Minthorn:

I duly received yours of June 30th, and  
note with interest everything contained therein.

Mrs. Minthorn's  
Health

I am very much pleased to learn that you have  
about recovered from your lameness, and that the summer  
days are so pleasant at Metlakahtla.

Information

The information you give is quite helpful, inasmuch  
as it keeps us in touch with the latest developments there  
and enables us to anticipate possible events.

Photographs

I note that the photographer has announced that  
he has decided to donate the materials for the photographs  
and that this matter may be considered as closed.

I trust you will write at least semi-monthly  
and give any information of interest concerning events as  
they develop, or as they are anticipated at or concerning  
the Reserve.

With kind personal regards, I am

Very sincerely,

*Oliver L. Sheehan*

*Copy*

20.30  
265  
H  
Portland, Oregon.  
July 21st, 1925.

Mr. F.L. Sheehan,  
4217 Fourth Street, N.W.

Dear Mr. Sheehan:

My address for a few weeks will be,  
In care of Mrs. B.D. Myers, 424 West 59th Street Terrace,  
Kansas City, Mo. I will inform thee when I change again.

I came down for a rest and change while the natives  
were busy in the cannery and at the fishing grounds.

304  
Quiet at  
Metlakatla

Every thing was quiet when I left Metlakatla. The  
Government Agent and the one remaining teacher came  
away at about the same time, but the nurse remains until  
about August 15th.

While we think it is a fine climate up there, it does  
really seem to get good and warm again down here in the  
summer heat.

Very sincerely thy friend,

Matilda Atkinson Minthorn.

*Matilda Atkinson Minthorn*

*Received 8/4/25*

1915  
8-26

121 121 West 5th Avenue,  
Mitchell, South Dakota.  
August, 26th, 1925.

Mr. H. S. Wellcome,  
41 East Forty-first Street,  
New York City, N. Y.

H

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

It is now six weeks since my leaving Metlakatla. My itinerary is growing longer than I expected it to be. I am in my sister's home here and have been having some trouble with my teeth. It has been suggested by the Drs. Myers that I should have some of them removed so as to help to reduce this affection on my face, whatever its nature may be, and as there is a very skillful dental surgeon rooming here who has done some excellent work in this family, I have decided to lengthen my stay a few days and have him do some surgical work for me before I go back to Kansas City.

My friends were so kindly and helpfully concerned for my health and sent me away to have some treatment. The specialists seem to have agreed that the proper treatment for it was radium, and I was some what anxious to visit my sisters before beginning the treatment, so they said it would be well to spend a few weeks here and in Iowa. After ten days the Dr. here thinks that I will be ready to go on my way.

Mr. Strong wished me to see Dr. Myers on account of the need of his learning more of the affairs of the Mission and Metlakatla than could well be conveyed in writing. We have canvassed the subject pretty thoroughly and while they are doing some thinking and corresponding about it, I am trying to get repaired physically so as to be better able to continue the work there, if that is best.

It seemed to be considerably disappointing to us all and especially to the Trustees to learn from Mrs. Pruell that she understood that the proposal of the lawyers as to the settling of the case was about reached and that they had decided that the only thing that could be done was to give the Mission the cottage of Mr. Duncan with the Guest House, and to leave the church in the hands of the natives.

This was the arrangement that was made during the term of Mr. Beatty's service as agent of the Government, and was so far then from being satisfactory that it seemed as little so now to all concerned besides the Trustees. However, we know that it is possible that the information may have been misunderstood by her. They had some thought of sending me there to Washington to inquire further into the matter, since they had no other information. They have not yet made any decision as to this step. And I am sure that they would do nothing without first ascertaining if it were best and advisable from thy own point of view.

Dec. - 30-8  
Feb. - 265<sup>26</sup>

-2-

ning on Sundays.

Dr. Poling preached here last Sunday. ~~Mr.~~ Mr. Strong let him do it. Well, we trust that some day the dear Lord will answer our prayers and that every thing will come out all right, as He did with His people that were in Egypt. We also hope that the Lord will give you more strength.

Mrs. Simonds sends her love to you and will write soon. She said that some one told her that you were going to Washington. I told her no. I know they are very anxious to know why you went."

Always before Fred Benson had been willing to work on Sundays, and the foreman in the machine shop is very disagreeable in his dealings with the natives, I was told before I came away. Mrs. Hudson has always arranged with Mr. Simonds about her work and that of her girls and he was willing to let them have Sundays off. She had told him that she could not work for him unless they did.

They white people were very curious about the visit of my friends, Mr. and Mrs. Stalker, as I remarked in a previous letter. They appeared to take it for granted that they were investigating affairs officially. I supposed that they would take it for granted that I was away on some errand for the case also.

I shall write Mrs. Hudson to tell me all the particulars about the doings of all these people and she will have time for it now as close time on fishing with the traps begins on August 18th and the cannery intended to close then. The natives may continue to do some trolling and sell to the cold storage plants. But seining and using nets is prohibited until next spring.

May the clear true guidance of the Lord be given thee for every step in thy life work and may the blessing of success and of victory attend each effort that has to do with the work of the Kingdom. The Lord is never defeated in His work, and those who follow Him share His success. "The Lamb and His followers shall have the victory."

It is uncertain at present just how soon I may be able to return to Alaska. Dr. Myers thought it might be some six weeks before I would be able to finish with the radium treatment. And it will be near the 6th of September before it will be begun.

Thy friend and fellow laborer in the Cause,

(Signed) Matilda Atkinson Minthorn.

3/ 265  
H  
4217 Fourth Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

August 4, 1925.

Mrs. Matilda A. Minthorn,  
c/o Mrs. B. L. Myers,  
424 West 59th Street Terrace,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Mrs. Minthorn:

I received yours of July 21st  
written at Portland, and note that you are to be in  
Kansas City, address care of Mrs. B. L. Myers, 424  
West 59th Street Terrace.

Mrs. Minthorn's  
change of  
address.

I hope you enjoy your vacation in the  
States, and I shall today arrange with the Washington  
Post to change the address of subscription registered  
for you, in order that you may receive Washington papers  
at your temporary address. When you are returning to  
Alaska kindly advise, in order that I may have the mail-  
ing address again changed to Metlakahtla.

With best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

E. L. Sheehan

H

4053 Hyde Park, Kansas City Mo.  
December 10th, 1925.

Mr. H.C. Strong,  
Ketchikan, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Strong:

Tomorrow will see me on my way eastward and I will continue in that direction until I reach the "way down east" point of Augusta, Maine.

Mr. Wellcome's cablegram with the news in it that he would not be coming until the first of January found me with some appointments made that could not well be changed. We thought it best for me to go on and do some of the things that were in my mind to do before his arrival and then there would be nothing more on my mind.

Mrs. Minthorn's plans re visiting friends  
My first stopover will be at the home of the Stalkers in Urbana, Ohio, for two or three days. My next will be in Washington, D.C. where I shall leave my trunk. Next, I will spend a Sunday in Pittsfield, Mass., in the home of a former student of the Los Angeles Training School. She has been some years in China and begs to see me. Then I will have about one week in Augusta with the old friends who are counting largely on my being there at Christmas, and I shall arrive there about the 22nd.

Dr. Wellcome expects to settle case this time  
My return to Washington will be before the New Year, I think. Any thing that I can help to do to get things in readiness by giving information to his lawyers, I will do in the days while I am in that city both before and after going to Maine. But when, once I am there and settled down, I know of nothing to call me away until we finish the business, and it is encouraging to remember that in his letter to Dr. Myers he said that he expected to settle the case this time.

Mrs. Minthorn's physical condition  
My health is in good enough condition to stand any amount of work that I may have to do. My nose is improving but slowly. Dr. Mella, assistant to Dr. Sutton, who is away at present, said to me as I was leaving that it was nothing dangerous but was a very stubborn thing. He called it an infection. They have all mentioned it as being a lesion, which means according to the dictionary, something resulting from an injury. But the Great Physician has encouraged my heart as I have read and pondered His promises and recalled His former mercies. My hope is in Him and in His blessing upon the best means we can find to use. He is faithful to us even as He requires us to be faithful to Himself.

Letters received from natives  
I received letters today in the mail from Mary Hudson, Andrew Usher, and Thomas Hanbury. There was news in them in regard to Mr. Waggener's visit and the works of Marsden. Both Dr. Myers and Mr. Wellcome will be interested in them.

Financial  
In regard to money, Dr. Myers advanced me \$100. and later, when a check came from thee, he had me get traveler's checks with it to use on this journey. He also paid my fare as far as Washing-

page two

Dr. Myers wishes me to say to thee that he would like for the money that is to be refunded to him, \$ to be sent to me in a check in my name, and for me to buy a draft with it and mail, it to him. In that way his name will not appear upon the books of the treasurer of the Trustees.

I have been keeping account of all moneys expended and will continue to do so but in an entirely separate account so that if Mr. Wellcome wishes to pay the expenses of this stay at Washington it can be easily estimated.

admission of  
Trustees  
I am deeply grateful and do most highly appreciate the kindness of the Trustees in what you have done for me thus far, and it is in my heart to render the very best effort of which I am capable in the work at Washington. It seems to me that there one or two legal points yet untouched, and that the moral and ethical side of the case that no one has stressed in any way. With what practice in former years the work of my life has given me training in seeing as well as in expressing, I feel that there will be a little that I may be able to do to bring it most forcibly to their notice.

Dr. & Mrs. Myers  
The very great kindness of Dr. and Mrs. Myers I can not express. They have left nothing undone to help me in every possible way and have made their home so free and open to me that it has been a real blessing to my heart to stay with them. It will never be within my power to repay them, but the Master has said that he who gives a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple shall have disciple's reward. He will not forget to give them His blessing. They are living christian lives that count very much in many directions.

My visits with my sisters have been so very enjoyable. It is with much regret that I have had to refuse the urgent invitation of the two youngest to spend the winter in their homes. The one who is in such frail health clings very closely to me, but understands the reason why I must go on and finish the work that is now on hand. It is some satisfaction to be as near as I shall be this winter in the event of any thing serious coming to her.

Mr. & Mrs. Strong  
My remembrances of the times that I have been refreshed by the kindness and helpfulness of myself and dear Mrs. Strong in your home is pleasant indeed. Please tell her that I think often of her and her cheerful voice and words. May the season's good cheer be multiplied over and over to you both. And may the best that Our Father has for His children come daily into your lives.

Very sincerely,  
Your friend,

Wm A. Minthorn



Document No. 33

Folder No. 265

H

808 Colorado Building, Washington, D.C.  
January, 8th, 1926.

Mr. H.C. Strong,  
Ketchikan, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Strong:

At last all the devious journeyings of the past months are ended and I am in the place where so much of interest to us is centered and has been for the past three or more years.

I came down to the office this morning with Mr. Roman and have seen all the staff and explained about the baskets and curios that I had left to show to them. I have had some conferences with Mr. Shearer and more with Mr. Sheehan. Now I am established in a quiet room with a typewriter at my disposal and can continue to fill out the loose leaf blank book that I had been using for the things of importance for reference in this case when the time comes for me to furnish them.

It was nine o'clock Tuesday evening when I arrived in the city and was met by Mr. Roman and had the privilege of resting in his home yesterday. They are very kind indeed to me and say that it will be no trouble to them for me to remain as long as I desire in their home. Their two little people are already my devoted friends and make it seem quite home like.

Mr. Shearer told me this morning that Mr. Wellcome was expected here about the 18th, which news you have already heard through Dr. Myers, I think.

My visit to Dr. Stokes in Philadelphia resulted in his sending me to Dr. Hazen of this city, as Dr. Myers had asked him to use his own discretion in transferring me to any one here that he could recommend. And since Dr. Hazen was also recommended by the assistant in Dr. Sutton's office, I feel quite sure that it will be all right. More especially so since my visit to him yesterday.

I carried a letter from Dr. Stokes with an inclosure from Dr. Myers containing a report from Dr. Sutton's office. From these and an examination of my face, he decided that considerable change for the better had been effected since my leaving Alaska. And he said that he had no doubt that it would soon be quite well again. I liked what he said about the use of the radium not being too frequent, as I had felt concerned over the assistant in Dr. Sutton's office giving it on alternate days just before my leaving. I am to wait until the 14th of this month and then have another radium application.

page two

the home of an old friend, a trained nurse, in Pittsfield, Mass., and another friend in Maine gave me some sumachtea to drink, about a quart of it to be diluted to make three quarts. And friends in Augusta were already remarking on the improvement noticeable in the state of my nose when I left and the Romans spoke of it when I arrived here. So among all of them I am sure to be benefitted and most especially with the Lord's blessing, which has been so manifest to me all the way since I left Ketchikan. I had some doubts as to its being the right thing to do, but His way of proving that He had put it into the hearts of thyself and Dr. Myers to so order this journey has brought me the peace and satisfaction that I needed in order to enjoy it all.

Christmas greeting from Mrs. Strong. The Christmas greeting from thee and Mrs. Strong was awaiting me in Mr. Roman's home along with a number of others and made a fine aftermath of Christmath. To see the dear old-time friends in Maine was a very great treat to me, and some pleasure to them.

approves change in form of Christmas remembrance. It was very good for the people of Metlakahtla to have a change in the form of their Christmas remembrance and it was a splendid expression by the Trustees of the Christmas spirit. It will do a great deal toward emphasizing the benefits to the company that have remained loyal to Mr. Duncan's work. It is a great relief to my mind to know that they are feeling in good spirits.

I do not mention in any of my letters to them that I am in Washington or that I expected to come and shall not until I have spoken to Mr. Wellcome about it. Then I can do as he thinks best.

visit of J. H. Wagner. From all accounts, the visit of Mr. Wagner was very helpful to all concerned, even though the Marsden faction may not feel very grateful about the results as yet. I notice in his report on his visit to south eastern Alaska that he recommends that one of the three industrial schools be erected at Metlakahtla.

Dan Sutherland Fish & Fisheries. It was told me by some one today that yesterday in the senate D. Sullivan was trying to find considerable fault with the Secretary of the Interior about the ruling concerning the fisheries of Alaska.

Hudson's election as mayor. Can thee tell us whether there was any other candidate for mayor who run against Mr. Hudson?

Cannery Labor & wages. Could thee also tell about how many white persons or those other than natives were employed in Metlakatla cannery this past season, and what the prices paid for labor were?

Mr. Sheehan asked me for these things this morning.

I hope that soon w may have some very interesting

page three

things to write about. I have seen very little of the city as yet. It has been trying to snow today and is cool but not cold to me since my experience in Maine at 10 below. I hope later to have time when the sun is out to see some of the things of interest here, and as one of the friends in the office said, have something to interest the natives with when again we meet.

Hoping that all is well with you in your home and in all the work and care that falls to your lot and that makes life worth while, and that you may both feel the safe sure guidance of our Heavenly Father in all the remaining days of the homeward journey,

I am most sincerely

Thy friend,

Matilda Atkinson Minthorn.

Document No. 34

Folder No. 265

808 Colorado Building,  
Washington, D.C.

January 15th, 1926.

Mr. H.S. Wellcome,  
11 East 41st St.  
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

Thy communication as to the time of arriving in this city was given to me this morning. It is quite good news to learn that thy safe arrival in America once more, and I hope it may not prove too strenuous a time for thy good health.

Mail from Alaska last evening brought letters from Mr. H.C. Strong and Moses Hewson. The same news has been communicated to thee in a similar letter from Moses Hewson perhaps, but I think I will copy it for thy perusal and comparison with the one that comes to thee.

Mr. Strong's letter was mostly personal and I will copy one paragraph in which he expresses his feelings about the affairs here:

"I surely wish I might have a chat with you and Mr. Wellcome and sit in during some of the discussion. The most I dare hope for from the Government is acknowledgement of Mr. Duncan's right and worthiness. The rest will I fear, be only a compromise and little effort will be made on their part to restore. If a plan of real cooperation could be worked out, Metlakatla might yet see its most successful day as a Mission settlement and the credit still be Mr. Duncan's.

Our ground has not yet been frozen (Jan. 8th,) and there is less snow in the mountains back of our lakes than is usually there the 1st of August. Thus you see, without snow, there is danger of a shortage of water next summer. Plant life is still green and a week ago, wild violets were brought in from the hill back of town."

"Please remember me to Mr. and Mrs. Roman, also Mr Sheehan and with best wishes to you and Mr. Wellcome,

"I am,

"Sincerely your friend,

H.C. Strong."

Metlakatla, Alaska.

Jan. 4th, 1926.

Mrs. H.J. Minthorn.

Dear Mrs. Minthorn;

I wish to write this short line to you to tell you how we miss you this Christmas joy in our midst and I hope you are enjoying your Merry Christmas and happy New Year. Hoping you will enjoy your associates and hoping you will recover from your present illness. May God bless you and yours.

Copy of letter  
from Mrs.  
Hewson

Mr. Wellcome's  
answer

Excerpt from  
Letter of H.C. Strong to  
Mrs. Minthorn 1-4-26.

Election of 1926 Church Elders took place on 26. of Dec. and the Elders appointed are:-

1.. John Hudson .....	95 Votes
2.. Daniel Reece.....	94.. "
3.. George C. Williams.....	90.. "
4.. Andrew Usher.....	87.. "
5.. Moses A. Hewson.....	85.. "
6.. Philip Nelson.....	82.. "
7.. John Hayward.....	81.. "
8.. Silas Booth.....	81.. "
9.. Harold Hudson.....	78.. "
10. James Mason.....	76.. "
11. Edward Benson.....	74.. "
12. Joseph Hayward.....	62.. "

Executive officers has not organized yet for 1926, maybe we are having Elders' meeting some time this week.

Later on I think I will report you our new Chairman and Secretary and Treasurer.

Hoping you will report the same to our Friend Mr. H.S. Wellcome and Dr. Myers and Thos. N. Strong, the names of 1926 Elders who will work in our Church.

Those Elders have not obtained their affidivid yet before Congregation the same as you done while you were here. While we never have any ordained person to swear them in to their office, I was thinking to hire some ministers from Ketchikan to do this while you are not here to serve Holy Communion and baptism in our Church now. I only wish you were here.

Hoping to hear from you immediately when you will be here. Great disturbances occurred in our Church on Dec. 23rd. 1926. by 3 men Edward Benson was the leader who moved the PULPIT away from its legal place and further cut down the height of Pulpit plat form half way down and it looks queer to any one who seen it now. They made new plat form adding behind the Pulpit for Choir seats and it looks strange now from Mr. Duncan's Church. It is not a Christian Church now, it is a strange Church. It looks like a Presbyterian or Episcopal Church done by Edward Benson without consent of Elder's meeting nor consent of Trustees and Mr. Wellcome before they touch this HOLY place and it grieves the hearts of the whole members of our Church now, many people of our members quit going to our Church now on account of this great change, they are ashamed to see the church interior is torn down and changed disagreeable to our sight. It reported to me yesterday that Benson will build two new PARTITIONS on each side of Church walls to reduce the size of Building and he will commence this next week, without letting it known to members of Elders. Benson's scheme is this to put BOMB in our CHURCH and will scatter Elders and members and he will gladly give it to Episcopal church. He misled BenJ. Haldane and John Hudson.

Joseph Hayward is resigned on account of this shameful trouble. I leave it to GOD alone to return this Pulpit to its dedicated place before while Mr. Dunan was alive. Hoping you are well quick and come back to your work defending our church from great change.

I will gladly stand behind you to put you to work in this church. From now on. I am your brother in God's service,

Moses A. Hewson, Sec. of church & Elders.

There are a few facts about the situation as described by Moses Hewson that are of long standing.

1. That Edward Benson has had in mind for some years the making of the Matlebabla Christian Church into an Episcopal

church and the installing of his son Fred Benson as the rector. Fred is in Milltown, Connecticut at present being fotted for that office. In a recent letter from Mary Hudson she spoke of the fact that Fred would be coming home this spring. No doubt Edward Benson is anxious to draw around him as many as he can influence to follow him into that church and thinks that Haldane as Choir leader and Hudson as mayor and leading elder, are necessary to his scheme.

Before believing all that is said about either Haldane or Hudson, I would like to know from one other witness as to the same facts. The fact that Benson put some thing over on him, would make Moses Hewson very anxious to retaliate by doing something to humiliate them.

2. If he gets very much wrought up over it, he may take it to the Gov't Agent, Mr. Parrish, and ask to have Benson called down by him. This would get it into the power of the B. of E. which would be very able in its effects.

If any thing can be written to them to persuade them to make any thing right with the people, it would be best, perhaps to do so. Sometimes when Moses has said that the people were feeling discourage it was only himself and Joseph Hayward or some one whom he could infl to take sides with him, so I found, and my fears were soon allayed by discovering that the people generally knew nothing of what he was accusing them of being troubled about.

One must take several things into account in judging of the whole matter. Each year, however, I have had the proposition to make this change in the location of the choir brought to me by B. Haldane or some one, and have always turned them down by saying that it was very necessary for the future settlement of the case in Washin ton, to keep the church building and the services as nearly as possible exactly as they were when Mr. Duncan was living. After that I said that I thought that the Trustees and Mr. Wellcome would be ready to hear them and help with any proposition that they approved.

No one can tell what new combinations will develop among them in order to carry out any scheme that may be on hand. When Moses Hewson has any plan to work he tries one person after another until he strikes one that will combine with him. So with Edward Benson. They are both adepts at schaming and winning some one over to their plan when they can strike the person that wants some favor for himself. I am convinced that this is the way that Haldane became implicated in it. I am not yet sure that Hudson is because I know the implacable spirit of jealousy that Hewson feels for the Hudsons and how constantly he tries to bring some reproach upon them.

Possibly the quickest and surest way of getting at it will be through Mr. H.C.Strong. I shall write him today and ask for particulars to be obtained from three or more witnesses to the whole affair. His reply will be sent to me here and can be considered as soon as received.

May all-sufficient grace and strength be given thee for the work before thee, and the prayers of thy heart and others for these many years be soon granted. "He is faithful that has promised." We can always count on Him.

Document No. 35  
Folder No. 265

✓  
1418 Oak St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
Mr. H.S. Wellcome,  
11 East 41st, Street,  
New York City, N.Y.

January 16th, 1926.

My dear Mr. Wellcome:-

After mailing a letter to thee this noon I came to the house and found among other mail this letter from the Hudsons. I will copy the letter from Mary Hudson and enclose the letter to thee from John Hudson as requested by her.

Jan. 6th, 1926.

Time flies so rapidly before I do anything. The children and I were sick in bed. It has been raining since October and this kept the people weak or the children weak.

Your welcome letter came to me when our hearts felt so heavy before Christmas. One thing I will let you know first, John Hudson is mayor of the town now, Harold and Everett are the council men. So now we can hear what is going on in town.

We have a new wide walk. Part of the walk from your house is the new one and part from the church to the front street and there is a new walk in front of the Guest House.

Now about our church. Our church elders are elected now. They are the same ones that were elected last year only Harold Hudson is the new one. Moses tried to take Mr. Van Marter over about the elders. But others do not let him do it. We do not know what will he do next.

Another thing they did in the church, they moved the pulpit forward and made a little platform for the choir. You know Ben Haldane have tried to do this several times. He is not want to wait. At first we thought it would cause trouble to the people, but they seemed to agree with it too.

Ben Haldane wants to have new officers now. We will see what they will do. Ben Booth sign his name to be one of our members. He did it in the church in front of the people. I was sick in bed when this was going on. He said that he will be the first one to sign in. All of our people seemed to be happy this time when they received the letter from Dr. Myers. Oh, we were so happy to read Dr. Myers' letter. It was sure encouraging to us and to the people. Most of our people are feeling happy. Women too. We clean the church and decorate it nicely. Even the vestry they decorated it.

Your little house is still standing only the roof was in bad condition but it was all fixed nicely now. Do not worry about every thing. We are taking good care of your things. We are very busy now about every thing. We ask the Lord to give us more strength. Remember us kindly to Dr. Myers and wife. John will write to him soon as he can. We enclose a letter to Mr. Wellcome. Will you please read it before you mail it to him. You will understand more how we are here. May God bless you.

Your friend, Mary Hudson.

I hope that this will relieve thy mind of some things as it has mine.

Very sincerely,

Matilda W. Minthorn.

Documents 36 to 43

Blank



Document No. 44

Folder No. 265

1926

10-2

"H"

614 No. Rowley St.  
Mitchell, So. Dakota.

October 21st, 1926.

Mr. H.S. Wellcome,  
806 Colorado Bldg.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

Benson and  
Hewson should  
be checked

These letters sound as though something was needed to check some of the activities of Benson and Hewson, and also to encourage the others.

Would a prompt note to Mr. Strong do any thing toward helping out the situation until we can write a letter to the elders as well as to some individuals?

The meeting in the school auditorium was probably brought about through Benson. Marsden seems to be scheming for some place in the event of the settlement soon to be effected.

The episcopal clergyman is over stepping the bounds of christian courtesy, it seems, and is exceeding the orders of the Bishop, if he has had any from him.

Simonds seeks  
Hewson as ally,-  
motive to secure  
new cannery  
lease

The very mention of a salary from any source inflames Hewson's imagination and he schemes to obtain it by any means. Simonds knew how well the bait he gave Hewson would take and has begun to make an ally of him, or is trying to.

The P.A.F. Cannery Co. will not give up the idea of that ten years' lease without a stiff fight for it. If Hewson and the Christian church and the Episcopal church and the other churches can any of them, be used, they will buy them all up if needed and if possible.

I am glad that something happened to make the Brendibles think of returning to the Presbyterians, but the Thlinget influence through the Marsdens and the Brendibles has probably caused George C. Williams to go over to them.

Mrs. Minthorn's  
address

Since Mrs. Hudson asked for a wire or a letter, I think I will leave that to thee and will come to Washington as soon as possible after Sunday the 24th. If any thing is needed that I can write or do from here, I can be reached at this address until the 25th, or at 123 West Pleasant St. Davenport, Iowa until the 28th.

I will call at Davenport for my sister who wishes to accompany me south when I go.

Hoping that the Lord who has so marvelously

Document No. 46

Folder No. 245

(en route Seattle to Ketchikan)

On board the S. S. Alameda.

Dec. 4, 1926.

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

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

The writing of a few facts and inferences to be mailed in Ketchikan seems best at this time.

Before leaving Seattle, Miss Barlow, former matron of St. John's Hospital, Ketchikan, Alaska, spoke to me on the boat, expressing surprise at meeting me and remarking that Herbert Murchison and Mr. Zeigler were both on board.

Later, I saw two Metlakahtla girls, T. Hanbury's daughter, Frances, and Ralph Smith's daughter, Hattie, looking up and waving good by. Herbert Murchison was responding from the deck.

When the girls saw me they looked very sober and would not meet my eyes. This was principally from the fact that they knew that I would not approve of their present mode of work and living, nor of their interest in their fellow townsman.

After the boat was well out into the harbor, from a seat in the Social Hall my attention was attracted to the voices of Miss Barlow and H. Murchison.

(Page 2)

-2-

At first their voices were distinct, but as the hall filled with other people who were talking, I heard no more.

These are the snatches of conversation which fell on my ear.

B. "How did you succeed in Washington?"

M. "Well, the deal is not closed yet, but it looks favorable."

B. "What will you expect to do with the cannery?"

M. "Oh, we will run it for the natives."

B. "But it takes money to do that. How can you swing it?"

M. "The Bishop will find the money if we get the lease."

"And Sanborn will be the head of the Company."

B. "Why does the Bishop try to go into such business?"

M. "The Bishop is only trying to help the people on the Island."

M. "Sanborn went down three days ahead of us. We only arrived in Washington the day before Thanksgiving and had very little time to do much business."

Document No. 46

Folder No. 265

conversation was full of the achievements of the Church in its Missions among the Indians. She was soon inquiring of Metlakahtla and asked, "Have you let those splendid people degenerate into the low type of Indians that we have here in the U. S. after all that Mr. Duncan did for them, or are you keeping them up to the high grade of Character which he brought them to?"

As an object lesson seemed necessary, I replied to the effect that considering all the hindrances from the B. of E. and other churches, they were doing as well as could be expected, and much better than all the surrounding villages, including Old Metlakahtla in B. C.

It seemed necessary to show the contrast between Old and New Metlakahtla today, and I made it some what graphic. And when she asked if there were not some way in which the Church could assist us at Metlakahtla, I remarked that they were not able to keep up their work in Ketchikan financially, and we were well able to keep up the Mission in Metlakahtla, and the spiritual conditions at Old Metlakahtla did not give much promise of help on that line, so it seemed to me that if the churches generally would cease interfering and just let us alone, we would be grateful and would prosper better.

With a change of expression, and not a favorable one, she asked, "Do you know Bishop Rowe?" I replied simply that I had met him.

(Page 4)

-4-

Changing her manner a little later after describing in explanation of the lack of funds for Ketchikan that the people of the Church were so ignorant of missions and did not respond well in giving, she asked, as she rose to take her leave, "Now will you let me tell the people that you would like us to help them, and let us know at any time if we can do any thing for you."

To which I replied as graciously as possible that if she would only tell them that we would like to be left alone and allowed to carry out the plans and work of Mr. Duncan we would be satisfied.

Here are some of the inferences which I drew from these occasions as above narrated:

Both Mrs. --- of Omaha, in the interview in the hotel, and Miss Barlow in conversation with Murchison on the boat, quoted often from the Bishop.

Miss Barlow is going to Ketchikan ostensibly to visit her sister. And yet the impression is borne in upon my feelings that she also has some commission from some one in authority, to carry out concerning the Metlakahtlans.

Also, since my arrival in Portland was noted in the Oregonian, and brought me numerous calls both in person and over the telephone from many of my friends, the visit of Bishop Whipple's grand daughter bore the stamp of a commission from some one in authority, and was designed

Document No. 46

3.

Folder No. 245

I recall now that I spoke of the missions of two denominations that coveted Metlakatla, having proven failures and were not calculated to inspire any trust or confidence in their doing any better work there than had been done elsewhere.

It occurs to my mind, too, that when the taxi driver had looked up the office of the Chief of the B of E for me in Seattle that morning, and was accompanied to the car by a clerk from that office, that he remarked that Mr. Wagner was having a conference with some men and would see me later if I could wait.

When I learned of the presence on the boat next morning of Mr. Zeigler and H. Murchison, it was only logical, perhaps, that I should surmise that his conference was with them.

All these persons have had the manner of Dr. Tigert and Dr. Work -- that is of having some thing on their minds which they must keep close about. The interviews were not free or spontaneous, but reserved. Even on topics which I felt perfect freedom in discussing, they seemed reserved.

Later - Sunday - Dec. 5th. This morning I went to H. Murchison in the Social Hall on the boat and greeted him kindly and in a friendly way, but he had little to say and appeared embarrassed and confused, only responding briefly.

(Page 6)

-6-

to my remarks and observations.

Truly, when one stands for righteousness and justice, and all that is genuinely good, the evil will shrink from coming to meet it in the open.

There may be something to add before mailing this, but if a boat is soon due, I will mail it and leave other information for a later letter.

"God's in His heaven; All's right with His world," comes to my mind today. He "rideth on the heavens for thy help," also is remembered, as well as the words, "With men it is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

May thy strength and courage and wisdom be help equal to all demands made upon thee. "Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed for I am thy God." "The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?"

Very sincerely thy friend,

Matilda W. Minthorn.

Ketchikan, Alaska. December 11, 1926.

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

H

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

In one of my recent letters I made a mistake and wrote \$75,000 as the amount that Mr. Sanborn expected as his yearly salary instead of \$7,500. Please kindly correct it on the other letter if it is still on hand.

Last evening Thomas Hanbury called on me and we talked over matters pertaining to Metlakahtla. He received thy message with some pleasure and sent his greetings to thee and says to let thee know that he is growing very stout and portly.

He asked Mr. Strong to put the work of repairing the house in Metlakahtla in the hands of some foreman who could use the natives in the work, as his time on the fishing grounds about this season is worth \$40 per day to him when he has good success.

He stopped there yesterday on his return from Cape Chacon and reported the work as very satisfactory and being rushed as fast as could be done well. I suppose that Mr. Strong has told thee of his agreement with Mr. Hanbury, a three year's privilege of renting and the opportunity to buy if he wishes within that time. The rent was arranged for at the former rate, \$5 per month.

Hanbury says that he heard H. Murchison tell in a meeting of the Metlakahtlians that Mr. Wellcome was winning the case. This accounts for the present activities of the Committee that visited Washington to secure the lease.

We hope soon to have an authenticated account from some of the natives of a meeting held last evening in Metlakahtla by Sanborn and other white men of the Episcopal Church of Ketchikan, at which an organization was made or rather a corporation formed to enable the natives of the Corporation to empower Sanborn to perfect the lease of the cannery and other industries.

The way they have persuaded these natives to all fall in line is to tell them that they will run it exclusively for the benefit of the natives. Then they seem to modify that, after it has been accepted by the natives, by giving Sanborn 51% of the year's income for the obtaining of the lease and managing it for them. If that is exclusive I do not understand the term. But they tell them that the recent company has only given the natives 17% and Sanborn will give them 49%.

Three men from Ketchikan who were present at the meeting last evening were to form the Sawmill Company. These three white men were described to me this morning by two different business men, neither of whom knew that the other had spoken to me of these

H

There is no missionary spirit in the man Sanborn, of whom I have inquired among the people here. T. Hanbury says that he has not liked him nor trusted him from the first. He seems to see only his personal profits instead of the rights of the natives.

Mr. Strong says that he wrote you on the 24th of November concerning this man, Sanborn, and that all the things that he has seen of him since goes to prove that he is mercenary and selfish. He spoke again of his apologising for something that he did not state clearly to Mr. Strong, after his returning from Washington.

I am writing today to John Hudson asking him to call on me at his first opportunity. It has been quite stormy for several days.

(Page 2)

Sometimes I feel very impatient to be over in Metlakahtla, and again it seems best at times to be here. At least I see that circumstances that have put me here for these few days are entirely outside of my control, but since "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord", I can only trust and do all that it is possible to do from here.

A Metlakahtla woman told me her sad story yesterday of the arrest of her husband and a white man who were using her boat for fishing, and were arrested on suspicion and found guilty when the witness said he did not see them but thought it was their boat. The white man appealed his case but the native was sent to McNeil's Island for three years.

Mr. J.R. Heckman and Harvey Stackpole prosecuted them at the word of the trap watchman, two men from Metlakahtla, who were not friendly to them.

It is no more easy to be here and to feel the disturbances in the air than it was before. White men in Ketchikan are looking on at the works of Sanborn with jealous eyes, and thinking that they ought to have some chance at the spoils. One man has said that he has a mining claim over there, and if Sanborn and these few men can despoil the natives through the cannery and other industries, he has just as good a right to open his mining claim.

I do not mean to gossip, but have felt that it was important for thee to know some of these items in order to keep trace of the workings of the opposition. Perhaps it looks different to me after having been down where these items mean so much more than it is possible for those here to understand. And yet we do not feel that much is of use unless it is authentic and can be verified by an affidavit. I hope to get correct information from Mr. Hudson soon, but will send this on by Monday's boat.

There is some talk of Sanborn's purchasing the lease from the present company of which Mr. Simonds has been the superintendent. That Company is looking for a site around Pennock Island in front of Ketchikan. In case he does purchase the lease before the final year expires he will be ready to renew next year when this lease

Document No. 49<sup>-3-</sup>  
Folder No. 265

C. Brendible getting so much more than any of them that they are ready to take up with any offer that leaves Brendible out. And the Commercial Company is all a thing of the past. Every native who was a stockholder has withdrawn his stock and only the officials of the company are left, but they have the store building and the stock of goods.

Marsden is not at home and will perhaps feel badly not to have had a chance at all this. The Cable office called up Mr. Strong a day or so ago and asked if his boat were going over to Metlakahtla, saying that they had a cable for Marsden.

I hope to send another letter by the next boat after this one leaves on Monday, but there is no certainty when that will be. Be assured that all information that can help thee and thy staff of workers will be sent on as soon as it is possible to send it.

The city is in almost universal mourning over the news today of the death of Dr. Garrothers who has been south for treatment and was very much worn with hard and steady work which undermined his strength. The natives as well as the white people feel that they have lost a good friend.

Our help is still coming from the Lord. Where men fail God can succeed. I can understand the saying, "Blessed are all they that put their trust in Him."

May He help thee and thy helpers with great grace and wisdom from His throne. We are remembering you all.

Sincerely thy friend,

(signed) Matilda W. Minthorn.

Matilda W. Minthorn.

Document No. 48  
Folder No. 265

Index copy

11  
J  
Read and  
acted 12/16/26  
JH

Alaska - Dec. 5, 1926.

Mr. E. L. Sheehan,  
208 - ... Bldg.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Sheehan:

Not having taken the pre-  
caution of keeping some of the carbon paper  
in with my writing materials, I have been  
writing some copies with pen and ink.

If any of these letters should  
be brought to the office to be placed in the files, OK  
I will ask thee to kindly have an extra copy  
made for me and mailed to me here.

I found, while in the office, such  
kind and prompt attention given to every  
request that I ever made, that I feel free to  
ask this also.

My associations with the entire  
staff were very pleasant and every recollection  
of the days spent there is a helpful memory.  
It does not now seem so much as though my  
work was isolated, as it used to seem.

There will be more to recount of  
my experiences when I finally reach the end



of my journey, Melick's, which will be  
some days later as the house repairing is not  
quite finished.

There are many friends to see in this  
city and I shall keep busy until I go over.

Give my regards to Mrs. Buchanan and  
to all my friends in the office, please.

Sincerely thy friend

Matilda W. Minthorn.

Document No. 47  
Folder No. 265

1926

12-8

Ketchikan, Alaska. Dec. 8, 1926.

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

In addition to the earlier writing I will add this more.

We have been to Mr. Strong's home and he has recounted some of the experiences of the past weeks, one of the most interesting being the fact that Rev. Sanborn on the morning of his return from the east, called on him and said he wished to apologize for what he had said and done concerning Mr. Strong, and explained that he had been believing what was reported to him.

I still feel that much of the errors and troubles of the B. of E. and Secretary come from errors in reports that are very far from the truth, and although it may not be done, yet if it could only be made plain to the Sec. it would very materially assist him in judging the case, to know how misleading the present as well as the past communications have been. Truly, there needs to be a revival of the first principles of judging, so that judges would hear all of both sides first.

While I have not information that is wholly reliable as proven facts, yet there are impressions received through conversations which I may record.

Mrs. Pruell heard Mrs. Zeigler say, at some social affair, while talking to other ladies, that Mr. Hawkesworth had encouraged Mr. Zeigler to help Mr. Sanborn to secure the lease.

Mr. Strong inquired of Mr. Sanborn as to what he expected to receive by way of remuneration and his reply was to the effect that he would get \$75000 a year. This means for six years.

(sic)\*

(Page 2)

-2-

It has occurred to me that if the others who are interested with Mr. Sanborn in this deal, such as Mr. Zeigler, Mr. Murchison, Mr. Hawkesworth, the Bishop, Marsden and Benson, and so on were to be as well remunerated, there would be but a small amount left for the "poor natives" for whose benefit all this is supposed to be done.

It is being well aired, evidently, by publicity of various kinds, and they have advertised a public meeting to receive their report of the visit to Washington and its results. That is to take place some time soon.

Mr. Wagner gave me some copies of the bulletin of the S. E. Alaska work, from Sep. to Dec. and took my address in order to send them to me each month. There may be some items of note and interest to the office, and I will make copies of them to send in. I have an impression that he will ask if I have them yet, when he visits Metlakatla in January as he stated that he expected to come then. Mr. Simons has always come in that month, I remember.

He responded to his urgent invitation to visit the Metlakatla

Leask is again the teacher in the Manual Training classes for boys, and Laura has the girls. The nurse this year feels dissatisfied Page 3 as she does not enjoy Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell, and Mr. Carey the other teacher feels the same. Those two board at the Government cottage. Mrs. Caldwell teaches in the school. Marietta Marsden does also.

I am not yet ready to judge of school conditions until I have seen the Caldwells and visited the school. In reply to my question as to how the people liked Mr. Caldwell, Mrs. Hudson said that he was not kind and free with the people as Mr. Parrish had been. That might mean that the Council and Secretary cannot lead him as they would like.

The Hanbury house is not quite yet finished so that I can go into it and I am waiting here in Ketchikan until I can occupy the house. They are carrying out all thy request as to its repairs and accommodations, from what Mr. Strong tells me.

The Hudsons are building again on their own lot. Mr. Haldane is keeping true. Benson and others are being quiet at present. I hope to meet more of the natives soon.

Marsden is in Juneau endeavoring to get Johnny Gowan, one of their adopted children, out of prison. He had been breaking into stores in Ketchikan and was found guilty and sent to Juneau.

May all needed grace and wisdom be given to thee and thy co-laborers.

Very sincerely thy friend,

Matilda W. Minthorn.

Document No. 47  
Folder No. 265

172/5  
12-12

Document No. 50  
Folder No. 265

H

Ketchikan, Alaska. December 18, 1926.

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

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

These are times of portentous happenings and I sometimes recall very vividly my strong impression during the days that followed the hearing of August 17, that we should prepare for unusual activities on the part of the opposition. And I had a premonition that the fact of the immediate possibility of the end or settlement of the case would stir up the covetous who desired to secure some foothold in Metlakatla, all of which is apparent to my sight and hearing at present.

I have had an interview with Thomas Hanbury and one with The Hudsons, as well as a call from Edward Benson which was lengthy, and a short call from B. A. Haldane, besides seeing a number of the Metlakatlans on the streets here at various times.

No small stir has been made in this city by the action of Sanborn in taking these steps to secure the industries of Metlakatla. There has the copy of the letter of Moses Hewson in which he speaks of his interview with Bishop Rowe and Mr. Sanborn in the hotel in Ketchikan about the will and the trustees.

Those statements have been made generally xxxxxx public by either Sanborn or some of his company, for Mr. Strong was telling me today of some one of the best and cleanest business men speaking to him of the accusation against him and the other trustees. It was of this statement that Sanborn was probably ashamed when he came to apologize to Mr. Strong immediately after his return from Washington.

He also spoke to the Metlakatla Council of his ignorance of the promise of Bishop Rowe to thee not to interfere with the church until the case is settled, and said that he would not have come over to the funerals of those two, Fred Benson and Alex Guthrie's daughter, if he had known of it before, and that his connection with the industries would have nothing to do with the church, and that he should not interfere with the church services until the end of the case.

Mr. Hudson said that he asked their pardon for coming at that time and when Edward Marsden asked him if he would trouble the church if he took the cannery, he said that he would not have any thing to do with the church. It seems that Edward Marsden came home to attend the session of the Town Council at

Document No. 50

Folder No. 265

H

John Hudson says that at the special Council Meeting, as reported in the Daily Chronicle of the 13th of December, the reading of the agreement that he wished the Council to sign, was not at all satisfactory to him, for it said, "the cannery, sawmill, and all other industries." Mrs. Hudson had said earlier in the interview that she did not feel easy about this deal with Sanborn, but she did not quite know what was the matter.

John Hudson further said that what interested all the men of the Council and of the village was the expression so often repeated by Sanborn that, the other company only gave you 17% of the earnings of the cannery but this agreement gives you 49%. Now we know that it is not in the nature of these natives to be shrewd bargain makers, and by thus playing on their credulity without further explaining how the dividends may be lessened by the large salaries that his helpers among the white men will draw, they may not get as much as they did at 17% in the old lease.

In speaking of the industries, and particularly of the sawmill, which is to be leased and the work begun at once, John Hudson said that they would have lots of work for they would make box shooks for all the other canneries around. Then I reminded him of the law that nothing should be sold off from the island, and he said that Sanborn said that he would see that the Secretary of the Interior changed the law so that they could sell to other canneries.

Then I remarked that if the natives did not look out for themselves they need not expect such a Company as this one to look out for their interests, and asked him if they wanted to let these white men use that law and sell off all the good lumber from the island in a year and leave them without any for the future. At this he looked perplexed and said he had not thought of that.

When I first began my interview with Mr. and Mrs. Hudson, I told them something of my travels and of the interesting things by the way and of Dr. Myers work and home and finally of thy work and a little of the hearing and closed with an outline of what was to be done in view of the activities of Sanborn in trying to supplant the Mission. John spoke up quickly then and said, No, he is trying to help us poor people here and will give us more than we have had before. You do not understand him.

Then I saw that I should be quiet about that phase of it and get him to tell me all that he knew and what had been done. By smiling and expressing interest now and then, I drew him out to show me just what Sanborn had done with them. He is certainly artful and adept at leading people just as he wants them to go. Marsden is quite pliable in his hands. All the men of Metlakahtla, with but little exception, and Moses Newson is one of the exceptions, and Thomas Hanbury another, have succumbed to his masterful leadership and arguments and are following and he is having his own way with them apparently.

I have reason to believe that before they left that evening

Document No. 50  
Folder No. 265

H

of the week, they both made an expression of disgust, and John remarked that he would not allow Sanborn to bring any such thing into the work in Metlakantla, I remarked to them that they had need to be on the watch and to guard their interests and their young people.

It was hard on them when they had begun to believe that here was some one who sympathized with them and was ready to help them and that good times were just ahead, to have to change their thinking and lose some of their hopes and anticipations, and I felt sorry for them but it seemed to me to be the case of the ounce of prevention.

During the interview, I told them of the question asked of Herbert Murchison by Miss Barlow on the boat, as to where all the money was to be found to do this, and his answer, that the Bishop would see to the money. John Hudson said, No, no, the Bank here will get the money for Mr. Sanborn, all the banks around here are in one chain and this bank in Ketchikan will borrow it of them for him.

But I said that bankers are hard headed business men and will inquire what the securities are to be and if it is safe for them to put their money into that business, Then when they find that they have poor men back of it and inexperienced men that never run a cannery before, they may not feel like loaning it to them. And I explained to them that in the company were three men associated with Sanborn who were no good in their own business affairs, and were owing money to all the shops and stores in town now, and were failures at home and that bankers would find this out before they loaned the money, it seemed to perplex him more, and he said that he did not know that.

I am told today that Harvey Stackpole is to be the Superintendent of the cannery when they get it organized. He has been in Heckman's cannery here for some years, I think. It is clear to some of us, and is the talk of the city at present, that this Sanborn Company are planning to get the inside track of the valuable things of Metlakantla and to exploit them for all that is in them. It is well known here that covetous eyes have been watching for just such an opportunity as this for years, and all the others are chagrined to see a stranger come in and scoop it up without giving them a chance at it.

We can see that there is nothing settled definitely as yet, nor can it be, according to law, until all the bids have been handed in and then the lease will go to the one making the best bid. John Hudson himself said that some other bidder might get the cannery. One of the arguments used by Herbert Murchison and his kind, to induce the Council to take Sanborn's agreement was that Mr. Wellcome and Mr. Stroc were trying to get hold of the cannery for themselves.

Some of the natives are so tired of the oppression of Charles Brendible and Marsden in the China contract for labor that they simply want to see him lose any further chance at it. This is what Tom Hanbury told me. He says that he has no use for Sanborn and had none from the first. I think that he sees the thing about as it is now.

Document No. 50  
Folder No. 265

H

He said that Sanborn had made Marsden a good offer, but I think he referred to the \$3000 a year as minister in the church. He also spoke of Sanborn making many promises to the people about the cannery and at first it was to be 50-50. The Commercial Company has gone down by all the stockholders drawing out their shares of stock, leaving only the officers which are Marsden and Brendible's family.

Marsden and Murchison made out a petition for Sanborn to take to Washington and they obtained the signatures of most of the natives, but Tom refused to sign it. Murchison told the people at a meeting that Mr. Wellcome is winning the case.

Hudsons say that Simonds did give food to Moses Hewson and to Eli Tait and helped several others and helped John Hayward. John Hayward's daughter with others went in swimming and some of them were ill from remaining too long in the water. This has occurred before and one of Benson's grand daughters died from the effects of it. Another of his grand daughters, sister of the one who died, was ill at the same time as Ethel Hayward. From the description of their illness it appears to be St. Vitus' dance. But I can tell better when I have seen them.

John Hayward makes a great noise about any thing when he wants to have his own way, and he obtained help from Simonds and from the Council, and then went to Mr. Strong, who told me of the interview, only this morning. John came over dressed in his best suit, and came to Mr. Strong and demanded Sixty Dollars from the Duncan Estate, saying that the money belonged to the people and that his father had earned part of it and some of it belonged to him, and that the trustees were making a personal use of it, and he demanded sixty dollars at once.

It impressed Mr. Strong as an opportune time to teach John a needed lesson and he told him that the money was not for such personal uses. That John had been helped by him at other times, once with a loan and the privilege of a long time job with good wages but that John was never man enough to return the loan even while getting the good wages, and now it would be useless for him to come asking for any more until he had shown himself a man by repaying the loan. (Many others are more needy than John Hayward but none make such a noise about it.)

When I showed the letter to Hudson asking for the lease copy from the Secretary of the Interior, in view of the visit of Sanborn and others to him recently, I saw that he hesitated, and then he said, I am sure that I can get a copy of the lease from the Agent and I will do that. I told him to either sign or rewrite that letter and send it to the Secretary or to write to thee and tell thee what he did about it and why he did it, and he said that he would. He promised to write thee fully about everything, and so did T. Hanbury.

Hudsons told me of the interview with Hawkesworth about the checks, and it is substantially the same as was given in Mrs. Hudson's letter. Hawkesworth remarked to them that if Evans did not tell it right he would lose his job. But Hudsons do not think that he did

Document No. 50

Folder No.

265...

H

Dr. Work might know for his own good what kind of men these are that are trying to get him to countenance their scheme. If he but knew them and that they are simply desiring to get the money for their own salaries, he might not be so ready to conform to the agreement that it is said here that he is ready to favor.

Tuesday, Dec. 21, 1926.

In resuming the account of affairs here this morning, I must tell thee that I went over on the mail boat yesterday to inspect the house of Hanbury, the cottage and the church in their present condition, at the request of Mr. Strong

The Hanbury house is to be ready by January 1st. It will be very good and is greatly improved in every way. I think that there is not one suggestion made in thy letter but that has been carried out. It will be clean and whole and pleasant in every way, and I thank thee very much for making it possible for them to think they might make the change.

In the cottage Mrs. Hudson had a fine warm fire in each fireplace as well as a good one in the heating stove which has been set up in the den or front room. She and John Hudson and I sat and talked over the situation again and they gave me much more valuable information.

Moses Hewson had written to Mr. Strong that when the petition, which Marsden had written for Sanborn and others to take to the Secretary of the Interior, was made out, that John and Everett Hudson had carried it around for people to sign, and he asked Mr. Strong to let thee know that.

John Hudson, I find was away from the village in his boat on a trip when it was done, and Marsden appointed Henry Benson and Harold Hudson to take the paper around, which they did. John says that they were careful to do this in his absence for he would not have approved of it.

Yesterday John Hudson said to me, you have always thought that I have been too much of a peace man to do any thing, but I am now ready to fight for the right. I am watching and we will both watch very close, all that these men do after this. I will get you a copy of the heading of that petition and of the affidavit that Mr. Sanborn made in Ketchikan before a Notary Public, that he would not have any thing to do with the church if he came here to run the cannery. And we are getting the candidates names ready for the council and the Elders and we will have our best men on the list.

I watched him with a new interest after that and saw the kindling of a new purpose in his mind and an expression on his face that I had not noticed before, and I have confidence that he will do as he said and that he is thoroughly aroused. I believe that he and others have sorely needed some one to back them up and to encourage them to take this stand.



H

do something underhanded or unsuspected by a more honorable man.

I shall be able to move into the house in Metlakahtla by New Year's but will go over Christmas morning, if the weather permit, and have been asked to preach the Christmas sermon. I will return that evening. Benson desires to have a "Tea Meeting", after the custom of Mr. Duncan, and have me talk to the members and comfort their hearts, for the others are telling how Mr. Wellcome is making a failure and the Presbyterians are taking away the money of the will. Some of the people have had it explained to them and they have peace in their minds, but more of them are much discouraged.

The Hudsons were very insistent that I remain last night and have such a meeting, but there was no place for me to stay, except in the cottage, which they suggested and which I refused to do. So if possible, I will have such a meeting with them on Christmas afternoon before returning.

As to the further activities of Sanborn, last night he was broadcasting on the radio his plans for Metlakahtla. The Strench's have a fine radio set and enjoy it, but were much surprised to hear Sanborn telling things about what he planned to do over there. He also had another article in last night's paper, which I am enclosing as well as an article about the playing of the Metlakahtla basket ball team.

It seems that the president of the First National Bank here is on his way to New York to secure the money to insure the operation of the cannery and has been made the treasurer of the Company. A word about this bank president might be enlightening. When the first effort was made to organize a territorial bank here by this man, he could not get the charter from the territory because of lack of confidence in the man.

He then went to Washington and negotiated the matter of organizing a First National Bank. In order to secure the confidence of persons there, he used the name of H.C. Strong, who is a director in the rival bank here, without his knowledge or consent. That precludes any confidence in him and his dealings in regard to the matter of the present company in the matter of the Metlakahtla Cannery. This was told me by a director of the Miners and Merchants Bank here.

A call from the new M.E. pastor's wife today brought out the statement from her that this Episcopal church in Ketchikan had recently been made a parish, which gives the rector more authority than a simple mission church, and they are consequently more independent of the Bishop and can do things that they could not do under the former status. So that now he will not be amenable to the Bishop concerning Metlakahtla as before.

I learned also from this caller that on his first arriving here he separated the natives from the white congregation and arranged to build them a separate church and called on the citizens to raise for him \$65,000. He asked 65 men to give \$100 each. His other activities were on so large a scale that it

H

industries he seems to have cooled down in his ardor concerning other matters here.

He cannot, in regular business proceedings, get possession of the cannery, or get the lease which should succeed the one now held, until one year from now, but has decided to buy off the present company's lease for the coming year and also secure the lease for the succeeding years. He says that he does not care to have it for more than seven years.

The whole city here is discussing him and his way of going at this matter. He has the bearing and the manner of a man who does not expect any opposition and evidently thinks that all the people will get out of his way and will allow him to do what he sets out to do without let or hindrances.

As yet I have not met him, but am waiting for the Lord to make the opening and then He will have me prepared for it. One man says that the way in which Sanborn is going at this reminds one of taking the bread from little children because the natives are not being allowed to think this thing out or to decide about, but it is all thought out for them by Sanborn and they are asked to rush their decision. This was the man who attended one session of the Council in Metlakahtla, Mr. Libe or Leib, I think his name is.

Mr. Hudson tells me that the 49% profits of the natives from their cannery is reckoned on the net receipts. That means that after Sanborn has had his salary of \$7,500 and the other white men to be employed by him as salaried workers have drawn theirs, the remainder will be divided between the native Council and Sanborn at the rate of 51% and 49%. In one of the first articles given out by him for the press, he stated that he was going to Washington on an errand that would be of great interest and benefit to KETCHIKAN. Some persons wonder now just where Metlakahtla is coming in.

The man whom he is planning to hire to run the cannery as superintendent is of the same class as those whom he has taken in as members of the Saw Mill Company. The men in that Company are all insolvent or deeply in debt, and this man, Harvey Stackpole, who is to run the Metlakahtla cannery is a hard drinker and deeply in debt also. No cannery under his supervision would be half cared for, and the idea of him and one of those in the Saw Mill Company who is grossly immoral as well as drunken, will be a very bad example and influence to put with the natives.

My heart is inditing a protest of great indignation and I feel like saying something to Secretary Work and to the public as well, about the whole matter. If there is any opportunity for me to say a word to any one in any place about this matter, I will be found ready and waiting, but will say things only to thee until thee wishes me to speak elsewhere.

have secret meetings in Brendible's house and concoct schemes there which they try to put through which are mostly aimed at the Hudsons. Brendible has a great grievance against them because of the check affair. He stopped little Jack Hudson from his work in the cannery at the time. Moses has the old insane jealousy of them and never lets up on his persecutions of them very long at a time. While Andrew Usher is as vacillating as an April wind. Yesterday I noticed that Mary Hudson's hair is becoming quite grey and she is but little past fifty.

Please notice that the entire PROFITS of the box factory are to revert to the city of Metlakahtla. But we hear discussed here the salary of the men forming the company and one man's salary is for being a salesman. When we inquired into it we found that Mr. Sanborn is planning to get the Secretary to change the law to allow the products of the timber of the island to be sold away from it. And again it was told me by Mr. Libe who visited the Council meeting, that Sanborn promised the natives that he would secure a tract of forest for them from the Forestry Department and they would cut the logs and bring them to their Mill and when sawed they could be sold any where.

When all the salary for a company of four or five white men have been paid from the earnings of the Saw Mill, the remaining profits will probably be small enough to pay for only a part of what will be necessary for the upkeep of the walks and buildings. And the cost of the machinery will also come out of that.

I was thinking today that H.R. Sanborn must have reckoned that all Alaska citizens are devoid of common sense to say nothing of ordinary wisdom. If not, they should be credited by him with enough business acumen to see through some of his highly camouflaged schemes. He and his associates are seen in little groups discussing their present schemes and future prosperity wherever they meet on the streets.

A boat leaves tomorrow and as it is evening now, I will close this and resume the writing, after this is mailed, each day, so as to keep all the facts and reports recorded each successive day.

Mary Hudson is ready at a day's notice to celebrate the home coming of the long absent missionary as requested. Every thing is going on as well as we can possibly keep it going from this part of the work, and we are continually praying for the help of the One upon whom help was laid for us.

Commending thee and all thy helpers to the wisdom and unfailing grace of Him whose cause you serve,

With great sympathy and an increasing determination to keep on striving to do all that lies within my power and privilege to do in the Great Cause,

I remain very sincerely thy friend,

(signed) Mrs. Matilda W. Minthorn.

Document No. 50  
Folder No. 265

Document No. 51  
Folder No. 265

808 Colorado Bldg.,  
Washington, D. C.  
Dec. 18, 1926.

Mrs. M. W. Minthorn,  
c/o Mrs. Wm. G. Strench,  
Ketchikan, Alaska.

Dear Mrs. Minthorn:

I am now enclosing

carbon copy of your letter of Dec. 4, 1926 to W written  
on board the SS Alameda

carbon copy of your letter of Dec. 8, 1926, to W written  
from Ketchikan.

With kind regards and best wishes, believe me

Your friend,

(Sgd) E. J. Sheehan

Document No. 52  
Folder No. 265

1926  
12-22

Ketchikan, Alaska.  
Dec. 23, 1926.

H

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

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

Last evening Alex Guthrie called on me and we talked over the things about Metlakantla. As he seems to be favorably impressed with Sanborn I did not say any thing adverse to the man, or concerning what I thought of his character. And after some preliminary greetings and the expressing of thy confidence in Alex and good wishes to him, which were manifestly very gratifying to him, he opened his mind to me and told what I wished to hear.

When Herbert Murchison first returned from the east, he met Adolphus Calvert, who was very anxious to hear of Herbert's experiences, and in looking about for a place to talk that would be safe and uninterrupted, they chose Alex's house. From 9 A.M. until 1 P.M. Herbert held forth and told the account of the wonderful things that he had done.

He spoke at Washington before a company of men and told of the money of the will and that Mr. Strong was called the millionaire of Alaska. Before he was a trustee he was only a cannery man. Since he got the money of the will he built a new concrete building and bought ships to run to Seattle and did many things. But the people of Metlakantla grow poorer every year and their poor are not taken care of.

He cited the instance of poor Rebecca Mather, Caspar's mother, in her demented state carrying a fish and saying she could get no bread, and how he met the girl whose mother had the giving out of the benevolences, and asked the girl why the mother did not help this woman, and the girl did not know.

(Caspar Mather built her a good house last year. He is in the employ of the Episcopal Mission of Ketchikan and receives some compensation for going about in a boat and holding services among the natives in summer. He has a good trade and a small family, but leaves his mother to live alone.)

He cited also the case of Eliza Bain whose home burned in Metlakantla before Mr. Duncan's death, about ten or more years ago, and to whom Mr. Duncan promised \$50 when she was ready to build another house in Metlakantla. She went to Mr. Strong last summer and asked for the \$50 promised by Mr. Duncan, to use for herself. He laughed at her and said he did not give out the money that way.

(Her son Willie Bain and her daughter Rosa Campbell are both wayward, and she will not leave them and come and live with her daughter Mrs. Hudson, although they have often told her to come at any time, they have told me so. I see them go and get her and bring her to their home and keep her a month at a time, when ever she is willing to stay. Herbert says that they do not

page two

Document No. 52  
Folder No. 265

H

to Metlakahtla.

Upon my inquiring of him, he said that he had never joined the Episcopal church here, but preaches for them, and for the Presbyterians when Mr. Falconer calls on him to do so in his absence. And leads meetings for the Thlinget Salvation Army, and is busy always in some meetings.

After Herbert Murchison had told his story, Alex asked if he were a witness for the Secretary of the Interior, and he said he was, and that he expected to be called down to the next hearing late in February. When asked if there was a stenographer present who took down all his words, he said there was, and Alex told him that some of the things that he had said might get him into trouble. But Herbert thought, and some of the men here, natives, share his opinion, that he has ruined Mr. Wellcome's case for him.

This is what is causing so much distress, I think, among the Metlakahtlans. They think from the way Herbert tells it, that the case will be lost. For that reason, the Hudsons and Mr. Benson and Mr. Haldane, are anxious for me to make a speech to the church and assure them that it is not true and that the case will be won for them.

Alex understood him to say that Mr. Wellcome's lawyers were present when Herbert was making his speech. Mr. Hudson says that if he can find out that Herbert told a lie about any body or any thing before those men in Washington, he will bring him before the Council, because they did not send him down for any such work as that.

He says that Herbert told him that he spoke of a union meeting in the Christian church just the Sunday before he went down, and then told those men that Mr. Wellcome and his lawyers are saying that there is division among the people, but he told them that there is no division, but all are united and happy as one people.

The copy of the Brief used at the last hearing, Alex said that he saw, and that Herbert had taken it to Metlakahtla. They will prepare an answer to it over there. And he says that they were told to write another just as long and to send or take it to the Secretary of the Interior.

Alex asked Sanborn if he were present while Murchison was telling all these tales, and he said that he was and thought perhaps Murchison was telling too much. Alex told him that he ought to have stopped him, and he had no business to leave him behind for those two days to do more mischief. He should have brought him away when he came.

Alex thinks that Murchison has not helped Sanborn any and may have done harm to your work. He said that Bishop Rowe had bought him a home in Victoria and would retire from the field, and that Sanborn had applied to be made Bishop of Alaska. He re-

H

In another week I will be over there and will be able to do effective work in influencing matters more. The reception is going to be very helpful in making a good impression upon the friends of the Mission. Mrs Hudson is all ready to be provided with the means to carry it out and her whole heart is in it. It is the same with them as with all others, they need some one to encourage them and to show them the way to work and then they are very willing to do it.

It is my plan to revive every work that Mr. Duncan had in use for the working of the church and to get the people to help in all of it until all are busy or being used. The elders are very jealous of any one doing any thing but just themselves. They do not think even the outside of the church should be repaired unless they are first consulted. Moses Hewson takes all the oversight of things and changes any plans at any time without the consent of any one else. Perhaps he will need a lesson of some kind, and we will ask the Lord to administer it and I must be willing that He shall do it through me, but I can trust Him for the grace and wisdom when the time comes.

The fact that no word comes to us from the office does not discourage me in the least since my sojourn there showed me how valuable is silence about the things that go on to win the victory that is so important to the great work. I have told Alex and the Hudsons that this is a great case which a large part of the civilized world knows about, and since their eyes are upon Metlakahtla, we must all behave as wisely as we know how.

Alex Guthrie told me of the school teacher at Saxman this past year being a Mrs. Ballard of Seattle, whose husband was a lawyer, and secured a divorce while she was here, and came and took one of the two children, the boy, into his own custody, leaving the girl with the mother. She recently married the Metlakahtla native, Matthew Verney. They both played in the Dream Theater, she at the piano and he the sliding trombone, where they met. They are going to Seattle for Christmas and she may not teach after they return, but will live in a house which he has recently built in Newtown.

Thomas Hanbury has just been in again and tells me that he spoke to Benjamin Booth about writing to thee a good letter telling all the facts as they talked it over. He says that Booth is a good talker and can tell it to a stenographer and it will be for both of them. He warned Booth to tell only what he knew for the letter might go before the lawyers and Congress. He said to him, Now Wellcome is down there fighting all alone for us and we must help him all we can.

He says further that just before J.R. Heckman went to Vancouver he and Sanborn were seen together much on the street in earnest conversation, and that in his opinion, Heckman is back of all Sanborn's work. We all know how Heckman has looked with covetous eyes at the fishing privileges of Annette Island.

H

page four

As Herbert and Sanborn came from the boat after their last meeting with the Council in Metlakahtla, Hanbury met Herbert and asked where he had been. Upon being told, he said to Herbert, Why do you not tell me when you go over to have a meeting? I am as much interested as you are. But Herbert replied, We do not want you in a meeting. You tell too much. Doubtless he meant that Tom would write it to you.

Tom asked me if any common folks might write to the Secretary of the Interior, and I told him that any body can write that has something to say to him, and that the Secretary will read it and think it over. Just what he has in his mind he did not say.

He does not forget that the Council declared that they would take his houses in Metlakahtla away from him, because he did not live there nor pay taxes on them. He told them to go ahead and try to do it and he would promise that some body would get hurt. This was before I returned, and I think it was to keep me from getting the house again to live in.

Time is a wonderful factor in all the affairs of men, and it may be well for these schemers to have time enough to show the real truth concerning themselves. They have covered their motives over with so many words, that many do not see through their plans. People here are beginning to say that it is a purely personal affair with them all, and that they are simply looking for the money to put in their own pockets.

Paul Mather is being made a minister in the Episcopal church as assistant to Sanborn, and is to be sent to Seattle to purchase the machinery for the saw mill and will have the work of running its machinery when it is installed, they tell me. This will give him a double advantage of having two salaries, and it does not seem to set well with these other natives. Alex feels as if it were not quite fair, I think.

How good it is to remember that the dear Lord, who knows the end from the beginning, has known always what was coming next and is not unprepared for any move of the enemy. To trust Him And be guided by Him in this work is the real source of victory and strength. He is hearing prayer for such grace as is needed to be given to thee and thy helpers, and will not fail us for one moment. May He give thee rest for both soul and body and keep thee safe from all attacks of the enemy.

Very sincerely thy friend,

(Signed) Matilda W. Minthorn.

(Typed) Matilda W. Minthorn.



Document No. 53

Folder No. 265

Ketchikan, Alaska,  
Dec. 26, 1926.

1176  
12-26

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

Dear Mr. Wellcome:

Mr. Strong will send this out today by the Bellingham, and asked me to tell thee of the visit yesterday to Metlakatla.

The owner of the boat, Chief, and his wife, Mr. and Mr. Steers, took me over and attended the service, and brought me here again.

Edward Benson, as chairman of the Elders, presided at the service, but had me preach the sermon.

Mr. Haldane had his choir well organized and well trained. The entire congregation rendered a Christ-

(Page 2)

mas chant in their own language, which was written and taught to them by William Duncan. Even the small boys on the front seat joined in singing it.

There was a goodly number present, about 175, perhaps, but none of the opposing faction, as far as I could tell. There was no service in the Presbyterian church and Harold Hudson told me that Marsden's orchestra would not play because most of them were discouraged.

The Christmas decorations were quite good and were all designed and put up by five young men on Christmas eve. There were no trees down the aisles as usual, and the whole effect of the decorations was pleasing, being on a more refined

(Page 3)

and delicate order than usual.

This, with the size of the audience, the quiet, respectful attention, the hearty participation in the service, was very hopeful to me. It is a very evident answer to the prayer that the Lord would preserve a people here for Himself.

Josiah Guthrie's eldest son, now a tall, fine looking young man, resembles his father very much. He is showing some of his father's traits of character in being manly and self-reliant and in helping others. I do so covet him for the service of the Master as a whole-hearted christian.

John Hudson was away from the town at the time of the burning of his home, and Solomon Guthrie, this son of Josiah, took other young

(Page 4)

men and removed things from the front of the house, the piano, and the

Dorchester No. 53 -2-

Folder No. 265 (Page 5)

feel more free with the Agent. Laura Hudson tells me that the teacher, Mr. Carey, (not the Agent) had studied medicine with the intention of being a medical missionary.

After preaching the sermon from St. John, 19:5, "Behold the Man", I closed with some reference to Mr. Duncan's work and thine and that of the Trustees.

The Hudsons kindly told me afterwards that I said exactly the things that the people needed to know and that would most encourage and help them. This was because the Master very graciously chose me as His means of blessing them.

From some who have the means of obtaining inside (in-

(Page 6)

side) information, I learn that Sanborn's party are seriously disagreeing among themselves; that Rasmussen, president of the bank, may not have gone to New York, but only to Seattle to see his family.

Some say that Simonds will run the cannery this year as usual, others, that Sanborn will buy off the lease for this year. Some doubt his ability to raise the money for it.

John Hudson sent me the copy of the petition, with signatures, which Murchison carried to Washington. I wish to copy it and designate the class to which each signer belongs

(Page 7)

before sending it on to thee.

He also sent me a copy of the report of the election judges and names of the new Councilmen dated Dec. 16, 1926. That, too, I will send later. They are mostly our men-

The people yesterday looked well and hearty and were well clothed. They were as prosperous looking as ever I saw them.

As Dr. Winthorn used to say, the rank and file of the members and of the village generally, are all right. It is the leaders who have all the troubles and make things sound badly.

Praying for a great measure

(Page 8)

of grace and wisdom to be given to thee, and looking for the blessings of the Lord to surely be upon thee and thy work,

I remain

Sincerely thy friend

Document No. 53  
Folder No. 265

H

REPORT OF ELECTION JUDGES.

Metlakahtla, Alaska.  
December 21, 1926.

The Mayor and Council,  
Metlakahtla, Alaska.

Gentlemen:

We the undersigned Election Judges,  
appointed at the Mass Meeting of the Town of Metlakahtla  
on the 16th of December, 1926, have presided over the  
Annual Election of the Town of Metlakahtla, Alaska, on  
the 21st day of December, 1926, and the result of the  
said Election is as follows:

Whole number of votes cast 30

Councilmen for two years beginning Jan. 1, 1927:

1 <u>Edward Benson</u>	No. of votes	<u>25</u>
2 <u>David Leask</u>	do	<u>26</u>
3 <u>Everett Hudson</u>	do	<u>21</u>
4 <u>Rod Davis</u>	do	<u>25</u>
5 <u>Benjamin Dundas</u>	do	<u>16</u>
6 <u>Benjamin Haldane</u>	do	<u>15</u>

Respectfully submitted,

ELECTION JUDGES:

(Signed): (Ted E. Benson  
(Geo. Lawson  
(Tony Haldane

Folder No. 265

H

Dear Mrs. Minthorn:

"Haldane Secretary Metlakatla Council here.  
Is requesting Secretary's approval for people to  
employ teacher until Government can assume cost same.  
If you approve suggest you cable Secretary accordingly."

Sincerely,

Document No. 53-28  
Folder No. 265

List of enclosures for letter to Mrs. Minthorn:

9- 4-13 Lopp to Marsden  
10-10-13 Haldane to Gov. Strong  
10-11-13 \*Lopp to Marsden  
10-13-13 \*Marsden to Lopp  
10-18-13 \* Mark Hamilton from Lopp  
10-18-13 \*Lopp to M. Hamilton  
10-21-13 \*Lopp to Gov. Strong  
10-21-13 Gov. Strong to Haldane  
10-22-13 Gov. Strong to Lopp  
10-28-13 \*Lopp to Mark Hamilton  
10-30-13 \*Lopp to Beattie  
10-31-13 \*Beattie to Lopp  
11-1-13 \*Lopp to Gov. Strong  
11-10-13 \*Lopp to Jones  
11-10-13 \*Beattie to Lopp  
11-10-13 \*Lopp to Beattie

\* designates telegram.

Document No. 53-28  
Folder No. 265

B. of E. Seattle.  
Metlakatla. P.A.R.

Seattle, Wash.  
Sept. 4, 1913.

From: W. T. Lopp.  
To: Edward Marsden.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have told Mr. Jones that if the Secretary did not see his way clear to act favorable on the offer which your people have made, I believed it possible for your people to raise the teachers' salary by subscription on a tuition basis - our Bureau loaning you the books, seats, and possibly some household furniture. How would it do to start a subscription paper at once, charging \$2.00 per month tuition for day pupils and possibly \$1.00 per month for night pupils, collecting for at least two months' tuition in advance and placing it in the Ketchikan bank. If some are too poor to pay, possibly those who have no children can help them out. Fifty day pupils and twenty-five night pupils would pay his salary, and a popular subscription or entertainment would pay Mr. and Mrs. Jones' transportation.

In this connection I am sorry to inform you that our funds are so low that even if the Secretary approves our placing a teacher there, it would necessitate our discontinuing Saxman and Loudon (Yukon) for a year. The average attendance was five and eight respectively last year.

I suggest, therefore, that you bring this matter before the Metlakatla people at once and if they think favorably, start the subscription papers, commence collecting the money and have your committee request through me the Secretary's permission for them to employ their own teacher until the Department can furnish same.

\* \* \* \* \*

Document No. 53-28  
Folder No. 165

Off. Gov. of Alaska: 1915 files, folder No. 55. (FAR)

Metlakantla, Alaska, Oct. 10, 1915.

From: B. A. Haldane, Sec. Town Council of Metlakantla.

To: Gov. J. F. A. Strong.

You may remind that we and the whole of these people were raising our hands in consent that we are to maintain our school teacher's expenses, but since you were away, we were kind of perplexed of the fact that who shall undertake this matter, especially how much will be the total monthly expenses on the teachers, and how long we are to maintain such expenses until the Government undertake it. Therefore we hereby ask your kind favor to explain this matter to us so that we will at once have the fund collected.

\* \* We very well knew that it is unlawful for those who do not belong to this community to get any resources of whatever from this island. Now there are quite a number of strangers continually hunting and took away games that breeded on this said island, such as deer and other kinds. Is it unlawful for them to do this, as well as when they cut down timbers?