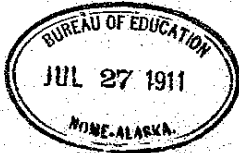


COPY

Deering 92  
 Annual Report June 30, 1911

1345  
0181

During the year I have made 650 calls. nearly all of the work consisted of medical work. one gun shot wound was opened and dressings followed. the other work consisted of such diseases as conjunctivitis, headache, tonsillitis, asthma, rheumatism, gastritis, enteritis typhoid, tubercular lungs, glands & bones, etc. I have traveled 200 miles by boat, 900 miles by dog team, 225 miles by deer. I have called on every family in each village examining all cases where there was occasion for an examination. I have advised the people publicly & privately to be careful of what they ate, to keep body & clothes clean also their houses and yards. I think they are doing good work along these lines of sanitation. of course during the winter they are not careful about throwing things around but as soon as they drop an article it freezes if the dogs do not eat it, and in the spring as soon as it is possible they rake the trash up and burn it or throw it on the water to be carried off.

As to bodily cleanliness some bath every two weeks others not so often. I have seen some taking sponge baths using a wash pan. A scarcity of fuel in some places makes it very hard indeed for them to melt snow for bathing and washing and also to keep the house warm. I have often gone into cold cabins, the people were sitting washing with their fur clothing on. of course they must have a fire for cooking but when the cooking is done the fire is allowed to go out; all along the coast fuel is scarce. on the rivers there is wood & of course the people have a chance to get it.

COPY

As to keeping the house clean most of them do very well, they nearly always have an oil can or some such article near the stove into which is put scraps of meat and all such to be cooked up for the dogs or given raw if cooked it is cooked in the house as they have no other place in which to cook it. (I objected to that one year ago but I find white people do the same thing. I have learned that circumstances alter cases.) and perhaps other meat near the stove thawing; but the middle of the room is usually kept in fairly good condition; then in the back of the room if there is no frame nailed up to sleep on, they have skins piled, out of which they make a bed at night, on the floor. Most of them have wooden floors except under the bed, in a few instances they are brush. I have encouraged their making frames for bedsteads as of course the skins they sleep in would have a better chance to air.

In the different villages there have been new houses built and in every case the buildings are more & more like the white people build; logs in the main wall, often boards inside of that & often the women put on <sup>new</sup> papers or any kind of paper that will make room look more home like & lighter; on the outside sod is put up against the logs, especially along the eads; it is almost the only way to keep the wind out. Almost every house has a ventilator. The cabins are of course built for cold weather, only occasionally is one occupied in the summer. Almost every family living in tent in the summer.

COPY

As I wrote last year Kotzebue is the central station and a hospital building is almost completed there and it would be possible for an attendant to help many more people from that point. For natives are coming & going all the time to that point. Medicine could be sent often or a patient could be brought there and treated, some cases could be helped by an operation but one would need a suitable place for working and would have to watch the case a while afterward, a case at Selavik was sent to be operated on, but it was nearer to Candell so the man stopped at Candell and had it done there, it was a case of blood poisoning and a finger had to be amputated.

Respectfully

B. W. Newsom M.D., D.O.