

Nome, Alaska. Apr. 19, 1911


Mrs. B.W. Newsom,  
Deering, Alaska.

Dear Madam :

A week ago I received your letter of Mar. 9th. enclosing voucher for \$9.00 being for telephone messages to the doctor at Candle regarding a sick native.

I am met with several difficulties in settling this voucher, both of them rather technical difficulties. But I am compelled to adhere strictly to the letter of the law. In the first place the voucher combines items that have to be paid for from two fiscal years. I have written this to every person in the service I suppose and I know it is the easiest mistake to make. The Govt. fiscal year closes June 30 of each year. The appropriations are made for the fiscal year. Therefore bills dated June 30 and July 1 of the same calendar year come from different appropriations and have to be on separate vouchers. You telephoned on June 21 and also in December. You should therefore make out two vouchers and divide the bill. The second difficulty is that I have no authorization from which it can be paid. Your local authorization has all been spent. However, I think there will be a way to pay it, but I could not pay it at present. I am therefore not delaying payment by sending this voucher back. The bill for June 21 will have to be sent outside on the first boat. Until you have handled Government accounts from my end you can have no idea of the necessity of adhering to the rules.

Very truly yours,



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