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Nome, Alaska. July 12, 1915

My dear Mr. Replegle :

I send under separate cover a good supply of the blanks you will need to use to handling the large amount of barter supplies sent you . Please be extremely careful in all these matters as everything has to be checked up carefully. By the way, it occurs to me at this moment that I have no record of any fuel supplies having been sent you . I understood that the \$940.09 worth of barter supplies were all for the expenses in connection with the building. I will wire Mr. Lopp today to find out about the fuel supplies.

Please impress upon the natives the fact that in taking over all their property to Noorvik the Government has really done a great deal more for them than they had any reason at all to expect. Of course the Government would haul over its own supplies but to take their own things is decidedly extra. And now that it has all come to so very much more than we had ever counted on it is a very great gift to them . Personally I do not see how, in the condition our funds are in, Mr. Lopp was able to approve hauling over the village property . While the offer of the natives was very liberal last winter, now that the lighterage has been almost double what we had counted on their offer to tear down the building and to work for a cheaper rate is not nearly as remarkable as it seemed then. You understand my attitude, I believe. I am not asking you to

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ask your people to do more, but I want them to appreciate what has been done for them so that if things turn out to be more difficult than we expect, and if it is hard to get through on the funds we have, then the natives will have to divide the extra expense with the Government. I have stretched my own "official credit" to the very limit to get things for Neorvik. This last extra lighterage account, almost broke my back, but now we have it and the people just stand by us and make good all along the line.

I have been informed that a certain party is closing out several trading stations just because of the fact that he knows now that the Government is going into the Kotzebue Sound country to put the natives on their own feet. The Neorvik move has shown him that. I know that you personally must have had some pretty trying hours during the past months, but as you can see, Mr. Lepp has been right with us and I am sure that things will go through. It is all up to you.

I had quite a talk with Mr. Cox on the general situation. I believe he realizes the whole thing fairly well. I want you to meet Mr. and Mrs. Evans who are going to Seawik. They have been in the Service before and are most strongly recommended by Mr. Lepp. I am most favorably impressed with them and am willing to assure you that they will do the real work and will be splendid neighbors to have. They are Government people right through but I am sure that there will be no reason for anyone to be afraid of them on that account. They are all right.

Miss Hill is appointed to begin Sept. first. I have known her very well and am sure that you and Mrs.

peplogle will like her very much personally. As a teacher and worker she has proved herself. I am sorry for your sakes that your daughter and her husband were not appointed but Mr. Lepp writes that he was unable to see that they possessed the necessary qualifications that were needed in your assistants. Of course Miss Hill is not a man! But next year when we are able to do more for Noorvik we will try to get a good man for you.

Later on I am going to send some supplies for the Noorvik pair. They will be plainly marked for the pair but will reach Kotzebue too late to go up with the regular supplies, I fear. That pair is to count, remember.

I should reach Kotzebue on the Bear the first week in August, possibly. As Mr. Lepp is supposed to come to Kotzebue later on in August it is quite possible that I may not make any attempt to get up to Noorvik, although I may do so. So write me a letter and leave it at Kotzebue.

I have ordered the twelve batteries which are to go on this boat. I am also sending you some dope which is to be sent out to the reindeer herds. I enclose a circular regarding it.

With best wishes for your work, and hoping that after all I may get up to Noorvik,

very truly yours,