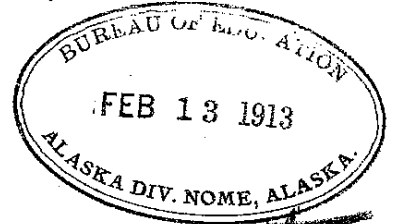


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Dec. 19, 1912



Game etc.

Walter Shields,
Asst. Supt. of Schools,
Kotzebue, Alaska,

I wish to drop you a few lines to inform you of something which is of importance regarding the natives.

Clarence Hawkins, the deputy marshal at Kiana has been, ever since his arrival in in the country, at a loss to earn all the milage available and to prevent his becoming a "nonentity" (his favorite word) as far as I am concerned about the public and the white settlers, he is welcome to go ahead and satisfy his ambition. What I wish to write about is his treatment of the natives. I am very glad that David Black and old "Sun" were looked after (even if it were only for the milage) but then at present (Eloktoona tells me) some very good natives in jail at Kiana, for a misunderstanding of the game laws (concerning furs) I am sure that jail sentences will rather take away their self respect than reform the morals of these men. Mr. Hawkins **COPY** violated the game laws himself, when he came up after

Sum. He bought a number of master skins COPY
after the season expired.

Mr. Hawkins also has been very zealous in the collection of the "store license" from Eskimos having "little stores". I have heard from both Eskimos and whites that Mr. Hawkins treats native women, in his charge, with too much familiarity (to say the least).

Another burden imposed on the natives is the "road tax" I understand that natives at Kotzebue were "held up" for this tax and that several were "Shanghai'd" to Squirrel River to work out the tax.

Mr. Evans sent me an opinion of the court, in which "little stores" were exempt (as they were liable only for "peddlers license")

It is not my purpose to throw mud at Mr. Hawkins but to do only what I can to prevent this alleged baiting of Eskimos for the sake of mileage and to the detriment of their morals. It may seem to you that I am rather out of order to write about matters outside my station but I am informed that Mr. Hawkins will make a trip up this way before long.

I hope you will investigate and relieve the natives. respectfully

Fred M. Sicker

U. S. Govt. Teacher. COPY