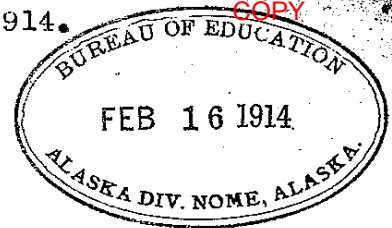


Noatak, Alaska Jan. 24th. 1914.



Mr Walter H. Johnson,

Nome, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Johnson:-

The bill for the boat

supplies and your note attached, received, and I think there must be a mistake somewhere. I will state the matter to you clear and frankly, so everything will be understood.

Last fall at Kotzebue there was a large river boat for sale, but we made no offer to buy it as it was much too large for our purposes, but I loaned that man Jopple the money to buy the boat, with the understanding he was to repay me this spring, me taking the boat as security. For the loan of the money and for my services as engineer, I was to get our personal freight hauled free as well as ourselves. This arrangements would have been satisfactory, had we not broke a knuckle-joint on the way up, losing the propeller and shafting, causing us to have to tow the load to Noatak. Jopple became furious and said he would never repay me the money and he wished nothing further to do with the boat. What was I to do but have a boat on our hands that we did not want. However I knew it would never benefit

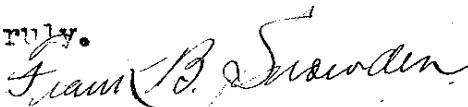
anyone in that shape, so I ordered those supplies thru Lomen Bros. in order that I might be able to sell the boat this coming spring. I suppose they must have thought the supplies for the Govt. boat and presented you the bill. However, I am writing Reed by this mail, regarding the supplies, for his prices certainly are outrageous.

~~I have already completed arrangements to get the boat off my hands~~
to Mr. White the Missionary at Kotzebue, taking a small boat in exchange which we can handle with less expense. I feel like making the

COPY

Government reimburse me as it is for our expense getting up here
They should be ashamed of themselves, making us go to such an ex-
pense travelling.
Well I wont grieve over spilled milk. Everything is going along
jolly well, with no sickness and everybody prospering. I never saw
so many skins in my life. The country seems to be alive with foxes
this season and the Natives are reaping a rich harvest. We were ex-
pecting Shields up sooner this year and if he dont hurry up, all our
good eats will be gone. We are certainly having dandy weather up
this way but lots of snow.
I wish you would be as liberal as possible and send me up some
paper, as I have only a couple of sheets more. I am ordering some
for my personal use, but would like some official typewriter paper.
I will send the money through you, when I hear from Reed. Accept our
many thanks for past and future favors you have or will confer on
us and our hearty good wishes for a prosperous New Year.
Best regards from us both.

Yours Very Truly.



Teacher.