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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON.

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W.F.L.

May 22, 1911.

Teacher of United States Public School at
Point Hope, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

I beg to inform you that the Superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey desires to secure accurate information regarding the tides and currents along the shore of the Arctic Ocean north of Bering Strait, and that the cruise of the United States Revenue Cutter BEAR during the present summer has suggested the possibility of securing the services of the teachers of the United States public schools along that coast in making such tidal and current observations.

With this end in view, the commanding officer of the BEAR will, while on his way North, leave with the teacher of each school north of Bering Strait a clock, two record books, and lead pencils and will erect a tide staff.

It is requested that in observing the tides and currents our teachers be guided by the 12 directions on the page which is enclosed with this letter.

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Referring to No. 5 of the directions, the Superintendent of the Coast Survey states that it is very desirable that continuous observations be made every hour, or half hour throughout the 24 hours for a period of 5 days, which will be of very much greater value than if scattered over portions of 8 or 10 days.

It is expected that the observations at each station, that are made during the absence of the BEAR to the North, be recorded in one volume and this volume brought back by that vessel on its return South. It is desirable that the name of the observer be written at the place indicated on the title page, also at the top of the right hand page of each day's record, so that in case there are more than one observer each one will get due credit.

Each clock and the remaining record volume are to be retained by the respective teachers, and it is desired that they make continuous night and day observations covering a period of at least 5 days, 2 or 3 weeks after the cutter departs for the South; this record can be sent out next year by the cutter on her annual visit.

It is probable that ice conditions may in some cases prevent the taking of satisfactory observations.

It is realized that compliance with this request will entail considerable labor upon the observer, for which no financial compensation can be made, and compliance with the request is entirely voluntary upon the part of each teacher. It is, however, hoped that our teachers will respond in a public-spirited manner. Due credit will be given to each observer, and the information thus secured will be of much value to the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Commending this matter to your hearty co-operation,

I am,

Very respectfully,



Acting Commissioner.

Through Mr. W. T. Lopp,

Chief of Alaska Division.

Enclosure.