

Nome, Alaska. Nov. 30, 1914

Mr. C. Ausley,

Noatak, Alaska .

My dear Mr. Ausley :

Your letter of the third was received two days ago. There is always a lapse in the Noatak mail service in fall and in spring, so we are always especially glad to get the first letters at those times . I know very well that your trip to Kotzebue on the "wave" will long be a hideous memory. You may, like others, decide to stay in the country until the railroads run so as to avoid all that sea trip!!

I am glad to note your enthusiasm in your work and your interest in the people. I really believe your feeling along those lines will increase rather than decrease . But get all of the hopeful features you can now so that when you get discouraged you will have something to hold you up. But after all I did not intend to write you platitudes!

The Program was very interesting and certainly shows that you have had real training for the school work.

At most places I try to impress upon the teachers the fact that there is more need for the village work than for laying too much stress upon the schoolroom work. But at Noatak I believe there has not been nearly enough of this school work, and so I hope you will make your work count along that line. If Noatak makes the same

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general improvement in its houses that it has made each year that I have visited it it will not be hard for it to lead the other villages in this district . The reindeer work has never been quite up to standard however. I think, on the surface, one of the great things to be done is to discourage the use of "ripe, mucky salmon". I can see no reason why they cannot keep their fish in better condition. They should get it frozen and then not allow it to thaw until they are ready to use it .

I am sorry to hear that the people are fussing over the price of wood again. It isnt that we dont want to give them the value of the wood, but they should appreciate the fact that every stick of wood is burned to warm them or their children. At Noatak the wood is far easier to get than at any of the other schools on the river and it should therefore be correspondingly cheaper. I am disappointed in the people for that.

Do what you can to repair the roof of the shop. Of course, we cannot get outside materials until next summer.

I am sending you a letter about the Fair at Igloo. Next year I hope to arrange one for Kotzebue Sound so that all of the herds in that section can get the benefit of such a Fair. After the Fair I will go direct to Deering, Kotzebue and Noatak. I should reach Noatak late in January or early in February. If there is anything you want me to bring up from Kotzebue write me at Kotzebue and, if not too heavy, I will be glad to bring it. I am sorry to hear that you have lost your stove. That is that it was not delivered. I will take the matter up .

Very truly yours,

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