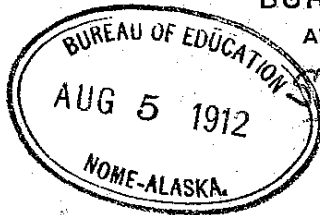


ShungnakDEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF EDUCATION  
ALASKA SCHOOL SERVICE

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SUBJECT,

Apprentice Natchokluk

July 18, 1912.

Supt. A. W. Evans,  
Nome, Alaska.

Dear Sir: Apprentice Natchokluk left the Kobuk herd about the first of May. He was in Selawik shortly afterward and Mr. Sicles questioned him about being in the village and away from the Kobuk herd. He did not give any definite reasons to him for being away but claimed he would return if he had an opportunity. Mr. S. says that there were any number of rowboats he could have borrowed and returned to the camp but he remained at Selawik until just before Mr. S. started for Kotzebue. When ~~Mr. S.~~ Mr. S. visited the Selawik herd on his way down he found N. with his herders. He advised N. again to either return to his own camp or to go to K. and report to me. After Mr. S. had continued his journey, our chief herder Jimmie Okeluck and apprentice Nausee

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over took him and came to K. with him. When they arrived here Jimmie told me that Nakhokluk had left the camp about the first of May. He said he had questioned N. for the cause of his actions and had received no answer. Nausee corroborated every remark that Jimmie made. Jimmie said he remembered a quarrel between Nauviksub and this boy ~~soon~~ after they started on their drive to salt water. This boy had used some shot belonging to the camp and then hid the remainder. Nauviksub wanted the shot, but found N. asleep. He woke him up by pulling him out of bed when he refused to answer after several requests. This started the trouble apparently. There was something said about Nakhokluk taking more than his share of the camp supplies, when they were scarce, and that he offered later to pay for the things he took but they refused the pay. As a result of these

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happenings, it seems that Nauvikuk, also an apprentice, "talked bad" to Nacksokluk and made him feel "very sorry" so he left the camp and went over to Selawik.

While Jimmie and Nausee were here making their annual report on the herd N. came in with the Selawik herders. I immediately sent for him as I wished to hear his story while they were here. He refused to come. I saw him the next day at an Eskimo tent and told him to come down to the schoolhouse as I wished to talk with him. All I received from him in reply was a grunt. He understands English very well when he wishes to. Jimmie & Nausee returned to camp the 3d of July.

Last Saturday evening I called all the Shungnak people into my rooms and told them the history of the case. By the way he was present, so also was his brother-in-law Riley Jim. I told them how

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had left the herd during the favoring seasons when he knew that many favors, perhaps, would die or get lost because he was not there to help take care of them. Riley Jim made several futile excuses for his absence and Natchokluk, himself, said he forgot about my speaking to him or he would sure have come and talked to me. I told him he was not telling the truth. There was another native present who heard me tell N. at the tent that I wished him to come over to the school house. This native told those present that he remembered this.

I told the natives in conclusion that N. had done wrong. That the government put these boys there and kept them with food and clothing, besides giving them deer, for four years in order that they might take good care of the deer that now mostly belong to the natives and soon will all be theirs. I told N. that

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his deer were worth more than a \$1000. That made him open his eyes as well as the rest of the natives. I then told him that if he did not take care of his deer and do what the Govt. told him to do, that he would lose the deer - that the Govt. would take them away from him. Riley Jim said "I would like to speak to you Monday." The natives said "you speak right Mr. Jones."

Monday morning he came in quite penitent and ready to talk. I told him it was too late, that I had sent for him over two weeks ago and wanted to <sup>see</sup> him then but he would not come and talk to me. I told him I would refer the case to you or Mr. Shields to settle but that I felt sure he would lose some of his deer on account of his neglect of duty and insolence of attitude to his superiors. I informed him that he could not return to the herd until he had

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