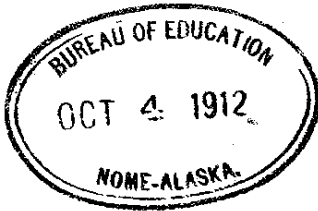


ShungnakDEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF EDUCATION
ALASKA SCHOOL SERVICECOPY
Ans Oct 7/12SUBJECT, \$300 ExpenditureShungnak, 1912
Sept. 14.

Mr. A. M. Evans,
Supt. U. M. Dist.,
Nome, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

In regard to the purchase of goods from Capt. John Bachland for Shungnak residence, I tried to follow your instructions. I regret that some changes had to be made in your list of building material or else put off the building of the residence this fall, as Capt. Bachland had sold or used nearly all his building supplies. Had I not known how necessary a residence building is to our work, as well as the fatal results that often attend the postponement or delay of a proposition, I surely should have cancelled the order and waited for further instructions from your office.

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I hope my actions will meet your approval, as distasteful as the whole business was to me. I believe we managed to get enough things, such as they are, to nearly complete the structure. At some later date ceiling, paint and perhaps a few other articles will need to be added.

For the reasons stated above I made the following alterations in detail in your list:-

(1) I purchased only two inside doors, as there were none other on hand (Dick Hall did not wish to part with these as well as several other things);

(2) I purchased twelve half sash (4 lights) as he only had this kind on hand;

(3) Instead of ~~Galvalute Roofing~~ and 2 ply P & B paper, I took a fairly heavy No 2 tarred felt (a sample COPY

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which I shall send you in this letter) which I thought would answer the purpose;

(4) The flooring he did not have but had to get from Robinson, Magids & Co. so he said it would cost a little more than if he had it on hand but it would be at cost to him - it is a good No. 2, four inch, vertical grain flooring;

(5) The shiplap I received from him was in fairly good condition except that it was terribly dirty and badly discolored from lying in the bottom of the ~~boat~~ ship; he did not have any ceiling on hand but as I thought we could get along without it I did not bother him to get it elsewhere; the nails are as per list.

I took the balance of the \$300 authorization and bought supplies from him to barter for labor.

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other material we shall need at this end of the road, as I believed the money would go farther and do the Eskimos more good in this medium. I thought this was what you intended me to do but was not clear on the subject. I am inclosing a copy of the list of goods purchased. You will note that he charged \$2.17 a sack for flour which is 17¢ more than he retails the same flour for at Kotzebue. This I objected to but he said that he was only charging what his contract with the Department allowed him.

Since you know the Captains—how badly we needed the material,—that we had to do whatever was done in a few hours as Mr. Blaine was tearing up the earth because he had to wait one day for this part.

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of his cargo, - etc, - I believe you will be able to understand any errors in judgement that may have made.

Mr. Blaine, representing Allen Transportations Co., was 15 days coming from Kotzebue here. At Salween river - half way point - he had to unload the large scow he had in tow into skin boats taking half the freight up and returning for the other half. He wanted us to go up with him the first time but as there was talk of caching part of the freight on bank to be brought up by dog team, or, by chance, another boat I concluded to stay with the goods and see that he got them all there - which he did and in good condition. Through it all

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Mr. Blaine was very courteous and solicitous about our welfare, so the delay was not felt as much as it might have been felt under different treatment. I do wish however that the government had a good boat of its own.

Mr. Johnsons ought to be praised for hurrying our freight along as he did and keeping it in the good condition we received it.

Very truly yours,
Lehsh Jones,
Teacher.

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