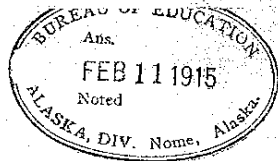


COPY



Shungnak, Alaska,
Jan. 1915

Walter Shields,
Superintendent of Native Schools
Nome, Alaska,

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter of Nov. 30, 1914, and wish to thank you for the pains you have taken to secure the payment of the men who worked on the house. Mr Lloyd says that he is willing to wait at your convenience, for his payment, and that next year will be the same to him as he is in no hurry for the money. John and Charley are in the Koyukuk where they have taken reindeer. I am afraid that perhaps I have given you to understand that the house had been "Completed", which however is not the case. The 2nd story needs to be ceiled, partitioned into rooms, and papered. There was also not enough paper to cover the partition walls downstairs. The windows are a medley of different sized sashes, panes, etc. I hope this material may be sent us.

We are enjoying weather that is 40 below, and the house stands the tests O.K. We have also had some very strong winds, and did not feel them.

We have Dr Nichols with us. He has developed in to a good musher since last year. He has been of considerable help to me but not to the extent that he would have been had he been able to have come up when I first wrote for him.

When you come please bring all the 1st class mail for Shungnak. I have heard nothing concerning our postoffice and we have had some awful experiences in sending and receiving mail this winter.

We are all well and hope that you and yours are the same. I still have a big school but many families are preparing to visit the Hot Springs, and this will cut down the average considerable.

When you are at Kivalina, I wish you would try to collect \$30.00 due me from Chester Downey (Sevik). If you cannot get cash perhaps you could arrange to have him give the Govt. a deer at Kivalina, and I could get a Govt. deer to butcher from this herd.

The doctor starts shortly so I must close
respectfully

Fred M. Sichel

We still continue to have trouble from flue fires, could you send us a wire chain about 30 ft. long, to be used in sawing up and down in the chimne to remove soot. chain should not be too heavy but should be strong
F.M.S.