

March 9, 1917

15-1

Mr. Charles H. Southern,

Columbus, N. M.

Dear Sir:

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, making inquiry with regard to the opportunities for teachers in Alaska. I note you say you are especially interested in the Mendenhall school.

The Mendenhall school is located in a small rural district some 14 miles from Juneau. During the school year 1916-17 a term of but six months was allowed for this school, owing to the fact that the attendance was very small, there being only six or seven children regularly attending. The salary paid to the teacher in this school is \$100 per month.

Enclosed herewith is a circular containing various items of information with regard to the white schools of the Territory, together with a complete list of them. The various school boards do not, as a rule, experience much difficulty in securing teachers, since the number of applicants is usually far in excess of the number of positions available.

The enclosures which accompanied your letter are herewith returned.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 9, 1917

15-2

Mr. J. Albert Baker,
Port Angeles High School,
Port Angeles, Wash.

Dear Sir:

I am directed by the Governot to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the second instant, in which you ask for information as to the possibility of securing a certificate to teach commercial subjects in the high schools of Alaska, should you need such certificate.

Permits to teach in the white schools of Alaska are issued only to teachers who have actually secured employment in these schools. Should you secure such employment, the credentials which you hold would, no doubt, entitle you to a permit, unless, in the meantime, the law governing the certification of teachers should be changed. Herewith you will find a circular of information with regard to the white schools of the Territory, which includes a complete list of them.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 9, 1917

15-5

Miss Frances Effinger-Raymond,
Manager Pacific Coast Office,
Gregg Publishing Co.,
1040-50 Phelan Building,
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the second instant, in which you ask for the latest edition of the Alaska school laws and directory of schools. Enclosed herewith you will find a copy of the act of Congress containing the school laws of the Territory, also a circular of information regarding the white schools, on the back of which will be found a complete list of these schools.

For a list of the schools for natives, you are referred to Mr. W. T. Lepp, Chief of the Alaska Division, United States Bureau of Education, L. C. Smith Building, Seattle, Wash.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 9, 1917

14-1

Mrs. Elizabeth Ferker,

Knik, Alaska

Dear Madam:

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the sixth ultimo, in which you make inquiry with regard to securing diplomas for the eighth grade, and also inquire as to the method followed in grading the examination papers.

In reply I beg to advise you that the diplomas in question will have to be provided by the Knik school board, as there is no provision of law under which they may be furnished to the district.

With reference to the grading of examination papers, there is no Territorial board, or other body, to whom these can be referred to, and you will no doubt have to do as is done in other school districts, namely, grade the papers yourself.

The situation in which you find yourself, as explained in your letter, is one of the things which brings forcibly to mind the need of appropriate legislation looking to the

establishment of a school system for the Territory. It is hoped and believed that the present session of the Territorial legislature will give this matter attention and pass a law which will remove many of the difficulties now confronting the school boards and teachers throughout the Territory.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 10, 1917

14-1

Mr. A. Christensen, Manager,
Land & Industrial Department,
Alaskan Engineering Commission,
Anchorage, Alaska

My dear Mr. Christensen:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letters of February 10 and 20, with reference to the maintenance of schools outside of incorporated towns in Alaska. In your letter of February 10 you ask, after referring to the item which it was proposed to insert in the appropriation bill for the maintenance of schools outside of incorporated towns for the education of white children and children of mixed blood who lead a civilized life, to be expended under the direction of the Governor of Alaska, etc., the sum asked for being \$30,000.-- if a portion of that money could be applied to the recouping of the Alaskan Engineering Commission for the sum that body had expended in the maintenance of the Anchorage schools.

In reply I have to advise that, while I have not received direct information to that effect, I believe that the appropriation failed of passage, and, therefore, it is needless to discuss that matter further. However, I do not believe, had

an appropriation been made, that it would have been possible for me to recoup the Anchorage school board in the sum of \$14,060, as suggested in your letter.

I have also to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of March 9, as follows:

"Understand Congress did not appropriate money for schools nor enlarge powers of Alaska legislature with respect thereto. Next year will probably have schools at Matanuska, Wasilla, Talkeetna and Henana. Account closing saloons, school situation in Territory in serious predicament. Cannot Alaska legislature appropriate funds to relieve situation?"

to which I replied as follows and which is hereby confirmed:

"Your telegram this date. Act Congress passed second instant authorizes legislature make appropriations from territorial treasury for support of schools. Letter explaining situation follows."

This morning, at the request of Representative C. K. Snow, Chairman of the House Committee on Education, I sent you the following wire:

"House committee on education requests that you come to Juneau, if you can possibly do so, and confer with committee on situation Anchorage and other government town schools."

I trust that you may be able to visit Juneau and confer with the committee, as requested, but if you should not, I have to suggest that you write Mr. Snow fully concerning the situation which confronts the schools of Anchorage, and those which may be required at various other government towns along the line of the railroad. I believe that it is the

intention of the legislature to make appropriations to some extent for the maintenance of these schools. I have to further advise you that on March 2, Congress passed a law permitting the Territorial legislature to make appropriations for the maintenance of schools within incorporated towns and outside of incorporated towns, for white children and children of mixed blood, leading a civilized life. I believe that this law will enable the legislature to pass such school laws and such school legislation as may be required. The school section of the Alaska fund, as you know, is entirely inadequate to support schools outside of incorporated communities. Hence, territorial appropriations will be necessary, if these schools are to be maintained.

The situation that has developed regarding the maintenance of schools in the so-called government towns, is a peculiar one, inasmuch as there is a feeling, I find, for instance in the case of an important town like Anchorage, which has not been incorporated, that either the Alaskan Engineering Commission or the people themselves should make some direct appropriation for the maintenance of such schools. I find, however, that there is a disposition on the part of Chairman Snow, of the House Committee, to look upon this matter in a broad way, and I have little doubt that the legislature, in any event, will make an appropriation for the support of such schools. As above noted, I believe it

would be very beneficial, in the case of these government town schools, if you could come here and confer with the members of the legislature. In the meantime, I shall do everything possible to meet the situation in as equitable a manner as is possible.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 10, 1917

15-2

Miss Margaret Hally,

Iditarod, Alaska

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 11, in which you state that your permit to teach in the schools of Alaska, granted last year, had expired, and you ask for a renewal.

In reply I have to advise you that such renewal was granted on February 20 by this office and the permit mailed to your address.

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

84

37

March 13, 1917

14-3

The Commissioner of Education
United States Bureau of Education,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 21st ultimo (Division of Rural Education), addressed to the Governor, in which you request to be advised as to the salaries being paid during the present school year to superintendents and assistants in the public schools of Douglas, Juneau, Nome and Valdez, Alaska.

In response I beg to advise as follows:

Douglas: Superintendent \$140 per month, assistant \$125 per month.
Juneau: Superintendent \$285 per month, assistant \$135.
Nome: Superintendent \$225 per month, assistant \$150.
Valdez: Superintendent \$185 per month, assistant \$125.

In each of the towns named the teachers are paid for the school year of nine months only and not during the entire calendar year.

Respectfully yours,

85

Secretary to the Governor

March 13, 1917

14-1

Mrs. Ella H. Nathan,

Katalla, Alaska

Dear Madam:

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the fifth instant, in which you tender your resignation as director of the Katalla school district.

Your resignation should have been addressed to the Katalla school board, and it is therefore being mailed to C. C. Naughton, clerk of the board, for such action as the board may deem proper.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 13, 1917

15-1

Mr. C. Green.

Lock Box 162,

Columbus, N. M.

Dear Sir:

At the suggestion of the Department of the Interior, there is being sent to you, under separate cover, certain circulars and pamphlets containing information with regard to the white schools of Alaska. Should you wish to obtain information with regard to the schools for natives, you should address Mr. W. T. Lepp, Chief of the Alaska Division, United States Bureau of Education, L. C. Smith Building, Seattle, Wash.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 13, 1917

15-1

Miss Geneva Sheets,

Seldovia, Alaska

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the first instant, addressed to the Governor, in which you request a list of the schools which will be maintained during the school year 1917-18, and ask for certain other information in respect to the white schools.

Enclosed herewith is a school circular, on the back of which will be found a complete list of the white schools in the Territory. It is probable that all of these schools will be maintained during the school year 1917-18, with the possible exception of Mendenhall, near Juneau, which, owing to the small number of children residing in the district, may not be provided for. During the school year 1916-17 this district had a six months' term. All the other districts have, I believe, a nine months' term. In one or two of the incorporated towns the term is ten months.

As yet no law has been enacted changing the method of certification of teachers in the Territory, but it is probable that the present session of the legislature will enact

legislation providing for the organization of a school system in the Territory, and this will, of course, include the examination and certification of teachers. It is probable that if such a law is enacted, it will provide that permits issued by this office and which are in force on the date the law becomes effective shall be valid during the period stated in such permits.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 13, 1917

14-1

Mr. C. C. Naughton, Clerk,
Katalla School Board,
Katalla, Alaska

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a letter of the fifth instant, addressed to this office, from Mrs. Ella H. Nathan, tendering her resignation as director of the school board of the Kayak precinct (Katalla School District). The resignation of Mrs. Nathan should, of course, have been addressed to the Katalla school board and not to this office. It is, therefore, being forwarded to you for such action as in the judgment of the board may seem proper.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

Juneau, March 14, 1917. O. B.

14-1

A. Christensen,

Anchorage.

Your wire thirteenth. Committee will be pleased
to hear you at any time within the next ten days.

STRONG, GOVERNOR.

I certify that this telegram is on official business, and
necessary for the public service, and will not bear the delay
of the mails.


Secretary to the Governor.

March 14, 1917

14-1

Mr. Edwin Wentworth,

Afognak, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 27, in which you state, in behalf of the native families and the families of the regular employees of the Bureau of Fisheries, residing at the Letnik Lake salmon hatchery, that they are deprived of school privileges, and you inquire if it is not possible to establish a school near the hatchery.

In reply I have to advise you that the so-called "Nelson" law, governing the establishment of schools outside of incorporated towns, requires that there shall be at least twenty white children between the ages of six and 20 years residing within the boundaries of the proposed school district. After the school has been established, children of mixed blood leading a civilized life, may be admitted to it. Your method of procedure will be, providing you have the necessary number of white children in the proposed district, to petition the clerk of the court for the third judicial division, in which your school district is located, which district shall not embrace more than forty square miles of Territory. This

petition must be signed by not less than twelve persons of adult age, who are citizens of the United States, or who have declared their intention to become such, and who reside within the boundaries of the proposed school district.

It is possible that the legislature now in session may make some important changes with respect to the Alaska school law. In the meantime, if you will write this office as to the number of children residing in your section, I shall further advise you in this matter.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 14, 1917

15-2

Mrs. Willie Leahy Abbott,

Afognak, Alaska

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 25, with reference to the employment of untrained teachers in the schools of Alaska.

In reply I have to state that in the case of Miss Zoya Pettelin, she was given a permit more particularly upon the request of the Afognak school board. It is quite probable that the school board of Afognak exercised undue favoritism while representing to this office that it was impossible to secure trained teachers. The great majority of the teachers of Alaska are trained teachers; the only exception that has been made is in the cases of remote precincts where I knew it might be impossible for the school trustees to secure teachers that were trained in their work. As fast as possible, however, I am requiring that every teacher employed in the schools of Alaska should have had previous training in some recognized institution, and this regulation will be as rigidly applied hereafter as the exigencies of the situation may demand. In the meantime the Board of Trustees of the

Afogmak school will be notified to secure hereafter trained
teachers.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 14, 1917

14-1

Mr. O. L. Grimes, Clerk,

Ouzinkie School Board,

Ouzinkie, via Kodiak, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 5, in which you state that on account of the severe cold the Ouzinkie school is going to run short of wood and you, therefore, ask permission to use any funds that may be remaining in the hands of the treasurer at the end of the term for the purchase of two or three cords of wood.

In reply I have to advise you that you are instructed to purchase a sufficient quantity of wood for the present term, using such funds as may be on hand in payment thereof. Careful notation should be made of the use of the money to this end.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 14, 1917

14-1

Mr. Martin Larsen,
Afognak, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 7, with reference to school conditions in the Afognak school district. I note you say that the school affairs of your district are conducted by people who are "tricky," and that the school elections are controlled by one ignorant native. In this respect it seems to me that the people of your school district should control their school affairs and, manifestly, the election of a school board is a matter that rests solely with the people and not with this office. I conceive that it would be very improper for this office to interfere in your school election in any way, provided that the election was conducted according to law. If it can be established that school elections are not conducted according to law, then, if this matter were properly presented to me, some action could be taken looking to the proper adjudication of the matter. Of course, there are difficulties, I doubt not, with which you are confronted, as you say that the natives are in the majority, but natives, unless they are citizens of the United States are not entitled to vote under

our laws, and again this is a matter which should be regulated by the legal voters of the school district. I do not know how many of the natives are citizens entitled to vote, but this should be a fact known to the white residents of the school district. The Afognak school costs the government a substantial amount each year, and it is the duty of the board of trustees to conduct the school in such a manner as to give the greatest amount of benefit to the children of the districts.

In the case of the employment of the Misses Pettelin, it was represented to this office that trained teachers were not obtainable just prior to the beginning of the school term and, therefore, these ladies were engaged for the present school term. I shall, however, notify the school board that hereafter they must secure only trained teachers for the school, as sufficient time is always given them, if they act promptly, to obtain such teachers in the States.

The need of harmony for the successful operation of schools need not be pointed out to you, and it is the duty of every resident of the district, whether he have children or not, to endeavor to see that harmony prevails and the best results are obtained from the money expended by the government in the maintenance of schools. I have, therefore, to urgently request you and others who apparently evidence interest in the school, to act together in harmony and see if you cannot bring about a condition that will be more

satisfactory in the future. I conceive that it would be a calamity to deprive the people of Afognak of school privileges, but if wrangling and discord are continued, such might eventuate until such time as the situation could be clarified.

Trusting that you will cooperate in every way possible so as to secure the best educational advantages for the children of your district, I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 14, 1917

14-1

The Board of School Directors,
Afognak School District,
Afognak, Alaska

Gentlemen:

You are hereby notified that hereafter you must employ only trained teachers in your schools. I am giving you this notice thus early so as to enable you to take the proper steps to secure trained teachers. I realize, of course, that it takes time for you to communicate with teachers in the States, but there is no excuse for deferring the securing of teachers until the eleventh hour. This office will be glad to cooperate with you at any time in procuring suitable teachers for your school. It should be distinctly understood that the regulation in regard to the employment of trained teachers in your school hereafter must be rigidly observed.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, & officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 14, 1917

14-1

51

Mr. I. D. Nordyke,

Clerk of the School Board,

Seldovia, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 15, in which you ask "Who is qualified to vote and who is not qualified to vote at the coming school election in the first part of April."

Section 324, chapter 2, compiled laws of Alaska, 1913, provides that in the organization of a school district, a petition for such organization shall be signed by not less than twelve persons of adult age "who are citizens of the United States or have declared their intention to become such and who reside within the boundaries of the proposed school district." It would, therefore, appear that the only persons who are entitled to vote at school elections are those enjoying the above qualifications; that is, those who are citizens of the United States or have declared their intention to become such. In the matter of school elections, I have held that the school board is the sole judge of the qualification of those who shall vote, and this is a matter

which rests largely in the hands of the election board for
such school election.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to L. C. FOLSON, of Kodiak, who having presented satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska for two years from the date hereof, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this 16th day of March, 1917

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Granted upon:

Renewal of permit
issued June 8, 1914.

Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to MRS. L. G. FOLSON, of Kodiak, who having presented satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska for two years from the date hereof, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this 16th day of March, 1917.

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Granted upon -

Renewal of permit
issued June 8, 1914

March 21, 1917

15-2

Miss Edna L. Robb,
Seward, Alaska

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the first instant, in reference to the matter of an Alaska permit. It is noted that you have sent for your Arkansas certificate and that the same will be forwarded to this office as soon as possible. The presentation of this certificate will undoubtedly be sufficient to authorize the issuance of an Alaska permit to you.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 20, 1917

15-2

Miss Belle Wallace,
Seward, Alaska

Dear Madam:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, addressed to the Governor, stating that you have not yet received from this office the diploma which was returned to you some weeks ago.

The records of our office show that an Alaska permit was granted to you upon the diploma, the same being dated January 12 last, and that at the same time the diploma which you had submitted to this office was mailed to you under separate cover. It seems strange that the diploma should not have reached you before this time. Unfortunately we did not register it in the post office and it will probably be a difficult matter to trace it. However, we will do what we can to locate the diploma.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to HAZEL JEANETTE HEALY, of Thane, who having presented a Minnesota State Normal School Elementary Diploma, and satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska for two years from the date hereof, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this 21st day of March, 1917.

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Granted upon:

Minnesota State Normal
School Elementary Dip-
loma, dated June 2, 1911.

March 21, 1917

15-2

Miss Katharine S. Doty,
Secretary, Barnard College,
Columbia University,
New York City

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 7th instant, addressed to the Governor, in which you request to be supplied with any printed matter which may be available on the subject of requirements for teachers' certificates in Alaska.

Enclosed herewith you will find a circular containing information with respect to the white schools of Alaska, which will serve to enable you to answer the inquiries received from time to time in regard to the certification of teachers in Alaska. A list of the white schools of the Territory will be found on the back of the circular.

It is quite probable that the Alaska Territorial legislature, which is now in session, will enact a school law which will provide for a standard school system in the Territory, including the examination and certification of teachers.

Respectfully yours,

102

Secretary to the Governor



March 21, 1917

15-1

Miss Faye Taber,

Rosebud, Montana

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 13th instant, addressed to the Commissioner of Education, in which you express a desire to secure employment in one of the native schools of Alaska.

The native schools of Alaska are maintained under the direction of the United States Bureau of Education, Mr. W. T. Lepp, 1223 L. C. Smith Building being the chief of the Alaska service. Your letter is being referred to Mr. C. W. Hawkesworth, superintendent of the southeastern district of Alaska, at Juneau. He will, no doubt, advise you in regard to the possibilities in his district. It might be well for you to communicate with Mr. Lepp, in Seattle.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

March 21, 1917

15-1

Mr. C. W. Hawkesworth,
District Superintendent,
Native School Service,
Juneau, Alaska

My dear Mr. Hawkesworth:

Herewith I beg to transmit the letter of Miss Faye
Taber, of Rosebud, Montana, who expresses a desire to
secure a position in one of the native schools of Alaska.

Faithfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

March 23, 1917

125

Mrs. Clota Ritchey Karr,
Ketchikan, Alaska

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 15, in which you suggest that a school supervisor be appointed to carry on the work of systematizing the educational work in Alaska, and you also state that if such office were created, it would be a center in which to receive ideas and plans as well as to give them out.

In reply I have to advise you that I have no doubt that your suggestions have merit, but inasmuch as the legislature now is considering school matters and will probably enact a new school law much more comprehensive than any we now have, consideration cannot be given to your suggestion until such time as the proposed law shall have become effective, and especially so since it is quite probable that the law will carry with it the creation of the office of assistant superintendent of education, who will be actively in charge of all school work in the Territory.

Your letter will be filed for future reference.

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

105

March 23, 1917

14-1

Mrs. Eleanor B. Williams,
Clerk of the School Board,
St. Michael, Alaska

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 8, in which you state that your school is inadequate for the needs of the pupils without extensive changes, and that the owner of the building is unwilling to make the necessary repairs. You also state that a building conveniently located, owned by the Alaska-Yukon Navigation Company, can be purchased at an estimated cost of \$200 and put in excellent condition for school use for about \$300, making a total cost of \$500. I have to further advise that I have this day wired you as follows, which wire is hereby confirmed:

"Replying your letter February eighth, your school board is authorized to purchase building from Alaska-Yukon Navigation Company for approximately five hundred dollars and to put it in repair, after this purchase is executed, and condition for school purposes at a further expense of about three hundred dollars, making a total cost of five hundred dollars. Include amount of purchase and repairs in your estimates for school year nineteen seventeen-eighteen and forward to this office. Letter follows."

This action is taken by me in the belief that there will be sufficient funds to enable you to make this purchase and

and put the building in good condition.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 26, 1917

15-5

Mr. Joseph P. Byers,
Executive Secretary,
Committee on Provision for the Feeble-Minded,
Empire Building,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Inasmuch as I am in receipt of your letter of March 6, in which you ask what, if any, special legislation has been enacted in Alaska on the subject of special instruction of public school children who are backward or retarded.

In reply I have to advise you that, inasmuch as the Territory has only been self-governing in a limited way for the past four years, this class of legislation has not yet been reached. Such children as are backward or retarded, however, are cared for in institutions in some of the States at the expense of the Territory.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor

March 26, 1917

14-1

Mr. Lawrence Eddy,
Kenebecott, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 17, in which you request that a permit be granted Miss Marie Dennis to substitute for two months in the Blackburn school. I note you say that Miss Dennis is competent to undertake the work and has taught in your school under permission from this office, in 1915.

I am, therefore, enclosing herewith a permit to Miss Dennis to teach in the schools of Alaska during the current year.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Enc.

March 26, 1917

125

Professor F. G. Davis,

Valdez, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your telegram as follows:

"I notice that the bill providing for the position of assistant superintendent of public instruction has been revived. In case the position is created, please consider me still an applicant. My recommendations are on file in your office. Letter follows."

In reply I have to advise you that I understand the bill that will probably be passed provides for the organization of a board of education, to consist of one member from each of the four judicial divisions, the Governor and the superintendent of schools to be known as commissioner of education for Alaska, the Commissioner to be selected by the Board.

I have to say, therefore, that should I be a member of the Board at the time such selection is made, your application will be presented, and, speaking for myself, I shall give it due consideration.

I am,

Yours very truly,

110

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to MARIE DENNIS, of Kennebecott, Alaska, who having presented satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska during the current school year, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this 26th day of March, 1917.

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 26, 1917

125

Professor F. G. Davis,
Valdez, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your telegram as follows:

"I notice that the bill providing for the position of assistant superintendent of public instruction has been revived. In case the position is created, please consider me still an applicant. My recommendations are on file in your office. Letter follows."

In reply I have to advise you that I understand the bill that will probably be passed provides for the organization of a board of education, to consist of one member from each of the four judicial divisions, the Governor and the superintendent of schools to be known as commissioner of education for Alaska, the Commissioner to be selected by the Board.

I have to say, therefore, that should I be a member of the Board at the time such selection is made, your application will be presented, and, speaking for myself, I shall give it due consideration.

I am,

Yours very truly,

110

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 26, 1917

15-1

Mr. E. F. Wann,

Hotel Cosar d' Alene,
Spokane, Wash.

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 14, with reference to the desire of Miss Besse Perkins, of your city, to secure a position as teacher in a school outside of incorporated towns in Alaska.

In reply I have to advise you that I am enclosing herewith a school circular containing a list of the various schools, both within and outside of incorporated towns, which you will be good enough to hand to Miss Perkins, who should address her application to any of the school boards named therein. This office has nothing to do with the engagement of teachers, that function being exercised solely by the board of school directors of the various districts.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Juneau, March 27, 1917 O. B.

14-1

A. G. Sheup,

Sitka

Replying your telegram date, legislature has no control over
Alaska fund, but is authorized make appropriations supplemental
thereto for school purposes.

STRONG, Governor

Secretary

Juneau, March 23, 1917 O. B.

14-1

Kleener B. Williams,
Clerk School Board,
St. Michael

Replying your letter February eighth, your school board is authorized to purchase building from Alaska Yukon Navigation Company for approximately two hundred dollars and to put it in repair after this purchase is executed and in condition for school purposes at further expense of about three hundred dollars, making total cost of five hundred dollars. Include amount of purchase and repairs in your estimates for school year 19 nineteen seventeen-eighteen and forward to this office. Letter follows.

STRONG, Governor

I certify that this telegram is on official business, and necessary for the public service, and will not bear the delay incident to the mails.


Secretary

March 28, 1917

14-1

Mr. A. S. Keeb, Secretary-Treasurer,
Anchorage Chamber of Commerce,
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 20, together with a petition addressed to the Senate and House of Representatives of the Alaska Territorial legislature, asking "for legislation for the maintenance and support of schools outside of incorporated towns in the Territory of Alaska."

In reply I have to advise you that in a special message sent to the Alaska legislature on March 22, the matter of appropriations for white schools outside of incorporated towns was considered therein, and the recommendation was made that appropriations be made toward the support of schools in towns on the government line of railroad, such as Anchorage and Nenana. I believe it is the disposition of the legislature to consider appropriations for these towns. I have further to advise that Mr. A. Christensen, of Anchorage, is now here on business connected with schools of this kind, and I shall do whatever I can in the way of cooperation, to the end that

Territorial aid be extended to these schools.

Yours very truly,

**Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction.**

March 28, 1917

125

Miss Margaret Keenan, Supt.,
Fairbanks Public Schools,
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Miss Keenan:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 13, enclosing a letter from Mrs. Zimmerman, clerk of your school board, notifying you of your reelection to the superintendency of the Fairbanks schools for the year 1917-18. This is just more evidence of your eminent teaching ability, and a just appreciation of your work by the people of your city. In response to your request this letter from Mrs. Zimmerman will be filed with your other credentials.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Juneau, March 28, 1916 O. B. BY MAIL FROM HOME

14-1

Joe Sugg,

Council

Your letter January twenty-fifth: Your school board is instructed to employ Mr. Steiner or some other qualified teacher to take place Mrs. Steiner for remainder of term.

STRONG, Governor

Secretary

April 2, 1917

15-1

Miss Frances F. Franse,

Marshfield, Oregon

Dear Madam:

I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22d ultimo, in which you state that you are desirous of securing a position in Alaska for the coming year, preferably in Juneau or Douglas.

I understand that the school boards of Juneau and Douglas have already arranged for their corps of teachers for the ensuing year, and I do not, at this time, know of any vacancies in other places in the Territory. The Governor is ex officio superintendent of public instruction, but the employment of teachers is left entirely to the school boards. It is seldom, therefore, that we are advised of vacancies or asked to assist in securing teachers.

I am enclosing herewith a school circular, on the back of which will be found a complete list of the white schools of the Territory.

I am sorry that I cannot be of more assistance to you at this time, but, as already stated, I do not know of any vacancies.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

April 2, 1917

18-1

Miss Beatrice Simonsen,
933 South Fourth St.,
Marshfield, Oregon

Dear Madam:

I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22d ultimo, in which you state that you are desirous of securing a position in Alaska for the coming year, preferably in Juneau or Douglas.

I understand that the school boards of Juneau and Douglas have already arranged for their corps of teachers for the ensuing year, and I do not, at this time, know of any vacancies in other places in the Territory. The Governor is ex officio superintendent of public instruction, but the employment of teachers is left entirely to the school boards. It is seldom, therefore, that we are advised of vacancies or asked to assist in securing teachers.

I am enclosing herewith a school circular, on the back of which will be found a complete list of the white schools of the Territory.

I am sorry that I cannot be of more assistance to you
at this time, but, as already stated, I do not know of any
vacancies.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

April 2, 1917

15-2

Mr. R. A. Barron, B. A.,
Registrar, Department of Education,
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 19th ultimo (file C-C13-17), in which you request information with regard to the examination and certification of teachers in this Territory, and the names and addresses of teachers' training institutions, etc.

In reply I have to advise that the law with respect to the examination and certification of teachers in Alaska is very meager. In substance, the provisions simply authorize the Governor to prescribe rules and regulations for the examination and certification of teachers. As practically all of the teachers employed in the Alaska schools come from the States, no regulations have as yet been formulated, covering the examination of teachers, but the practice followed is to require the teachers to submit their state certificates or college or university diplomas for inspection, and Alaska permits, good for a period of two years, are issued upon such certificates or diplomas. It is probable that the Alaska legislature, which is now in session, will enact a general

law which will, among other things, provide for the examination and certification of teachers, along lines usually employed in the States.

There are no teachers' training institutions in Alaska at the present time.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

April 2, 1917

15-5

A. Flanagan Company,

521 South Wabash Ave.,

Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your circular inquiry of the 15th ultimo, and in reply to your several inquiries, you are advised as follows:

1. We do not publish an educational directory for the Territory, but there is enclosed herewith a circular letter containing information with regard to the white schools of Alaska, on the back of which will be found a complete list of these schools.
2. There is, as yet, no law in Alaska governing the adoption and use of text and reading books, although it is probable that the legislature which is now in session, will enact such a law.
3. There are no school libraries or reading circles in the Territory.
4. The courses of study in use in the white schools of Alaska have not as yet been standardized. It is probable that provision for this will be made in a law which will be passed by the present session of the Territorial legislature.
5. For the same reason as given in answer to your inquiry No. 2, we cannot furnish the information desired.

Respectfully yours,

122

Enc.

Secretary to the Governor

April 2, 1917

15-6

Mr. H. E. Tagge, Manager,
A-1 Advertising Service,
54 West Randolph St.,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:

In response to the request contained in your letter of the 20th ultimo, addressed to the Governor, there is enclosed herewith a circular letter containing information with regard to the white schools of this Territory, on the back of which will be found a complete list of these schools.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

April 2, 1917

15-6

Mr. R. R. Alexander,
General Manager,
Northwestern Teachers' Agency,
Empire Building,
Boise, Idaho

Dear Sir:

In response to the request contained in your letter of the 20th ultimo, addressed to the "Department of Education," there is enclosed herewith a circular letter containing information with regard to the white schools of this Territory, on the back of which will be found a complete list of these schools.

Respectfully,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

April 2, 1917

15-5

Miss Elisa Jane Rule,
Library of Oklahoma College for Women,
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Dear Madam:

In response to the request contained in your letter of the 13th instmt, addressed to the superintendent of public education, there is being mailed to you, under separate cover, a copy of the last annual report of the Governor of the Territory, in which will be found a brief statement concerning the white schools of the Territory. A separate report on the schools is not published.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

April 2, 1917

15-8

Prof. L. D. Henderson, Supt.,

Juneau Public Schools,

Juneau, Alaska

My dear Professor Henderson:

I enclose herewith a letter addressed to this office by Miss Flora Barbour, of Edgewater, Colorado, with which she transmits a letter written by one of the pupils of the Edgewater schools, which it is desired shall be answered by a pupil in one of the Alaska schools. If you care to comply with Miss Barbour's request, I have no doubt that the courtesy will be much appreciated.

Faithfully yours

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

126

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April 2, 1917

15-8

Miss Flora Barbour,
Edgewater, Colo.

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 18th ultimo, addressed to the superintendent of public instruction, enclosing a letter which you ask to have given to one of the Alaska teachers, to be answered.

Your letter and its enclosure are being referred to Professor L. D. Henderson, superintendent of the Juneau public schools, who will, no doubt, give the matter attention.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

April 2, 1917

14-1

Hon. C. K. Snow,
Hon. W. T. Burns,

House of Representatives,

Juneau, Alaska

Dear Sirs:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter received this date from the Secretary of War in reply to a telegram forwarded to the Secretary by this office on March 15 ult., which is self-explanatory.

Yours very truly,

Governor

Enc.

April 2, 1917

14-1

Hon. Wm. C. Edes, Chairman,
Alaskan Engineering Commission,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Edes:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 19, with reference to an emergency appropriation for the Alaska schools outside of incorporated communities. I had been advised that Congress failed to pass our emergency appropriation, but I am pleased to state that I believe the Territorial legislature will meet the school situation in a manner that I trust will be satisfactory and which will meet immediate necessities. The legislature is now considering a bill for the purpose of meeting the situation in such towns as Anchorage and Nenana, and I believe it will be passed. Mr. Christensen has been here for a few days and has been in conference with the committee on education, which has charge of the bill, and he advised me this morning that his several conferences had been satisfactory and, he believed, would have the desired end.

I wish to assure you that I shall do everything within my power to bring about such legislation as will enable these schools to be continued on a satisfactory basis.

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I trust that we shall be able to see you in Juneau on
your return trip to Alaska, and with kind regards to Mrs.
Edes and yourself, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 4, 1917

15-1

Miss Golda A. Wilson,

Palouse, Wash.

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 17th ultimo, addressed to the Governor, in which you make inquiry with regard to the opportunities for teachers in Alaska, and also as to the possibility of securing employment as a governess for the summer months.

In reply I beg to advise you that the employment of teachers in the white schools of Alaska is left entirely to the school boards, and, while the Governor is ex officio superintendent of public instruction, he exercises no functions in connection with the employment of teachers. At the present time, this office does not know of any vacancies or contemplated changes in any of the white schools.

The schools for natives, of which there are some eighty in the Territory, are under the supervision of Mr. W. T. Lepp, L. C. Smith Building, Seattle, Wash.

We do not know of any openings for a governess.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

April 4, 1917

15-6

Miss Alice R. James, Manager,
F. A. Owen Publishing Co.,
377 Monadnock Building,
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 27th ultimo, addressed to the Governor, in which you ask for a directory of the Alaska teachers, for use in connection with your mailing list of the Normal Instructor-Primary Plans magazine.

Enclosed herewith is a school circular, on the back of which will be found a complete list of white schools of the Territory. It is not feasible to give you a directory of the teachers since, owing to the near approach of the close of the school year, there will probably be numerous changes and such a list would not be of much service to you. No doubt, letters or sample copies of your magazine, if addressed to the principal of the school at any of the places named in the circular enclosed, will be delivered to the proper person.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

131

Enc.

April 4, 1917

15-6

Prof. H. L. Smith, Dean,
School of Education, Indiana University,
Bloomington, Indiana

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 21st ultimo, addressed to the Governor as ex officio superintendent of public instruction, in which you request a directory of the city and town superintendents, assistant superintendents, the county superintendents, and the principals of ward buildings and high schools in Alaska.

Owing to the near approach of the close of the present school year, a list of the school officials referred to would perhaps be of little service to you, since it is probable that there will be quite a number of changes in the personnel of the various school corps by the time the new school year begins. However, there is enclosed herewith a school circular, on the back of which will be found a complete list of the white schools of the Territory. Communications addressed to the principals of these schools will no doubt reach the proper persons, regardless of any changes which may occur in the meantime.

There are at the present time no county superintendents in Alaska; the Territory is not subdivided into counties and we have not, as yet, an organized school system. The Territorial legislature is now in session, and it is probable that a school law will be enacted which will provide for a general school supervision, and a standardization of the courses of study, etc.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

April 5, 1917

15-1

Mr. George A. Warner,

310 West 112th Street,

New York City

My dear Mr. Warner:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 27, with reference to securing a position in the schools of Alaska. You specifically mention Fortuna Ledge and Willow Creek; but, as you know, before schools may be operated there, districts must be organized and school houses built and equipped. There is no doubt that if these districts have the requisite number of white children, school facilities will be furnished both places, as there will undoubtedly be money enough appropriated by the Territorial legislature to meet the requirements of all the white schools in the Territory. Hitherto the number of white children necessary to organize a school district was twenty, but a bill now in the Territorial legislature reduces this number to ten. The bill has not as yet been passed, but I assume that it will.

Of course, if I can assist you in obtaining a school in the Territory, I shall cheerfully do so. I am enclosing here-

with a school circular containing a list of the white schools
already established, and it might be well for you to get in
communication with one or more of them.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Enc.

April 5, 1917

15-2

Mrs. Mary H. Zimmerman, Clerk,
Fairbanks School Board,
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 21, together with a permit issued by this office to Miss Grace Mr Stevenson. It is noted that your board found it necessary to dismiss Miss Stevenson, hence the return of her permit to teach, and that you have temporarily employed Mrs. Harry E. Cloes in the place of Miss Stevenson.

In reply I have to state that inasmuch as Mrs. Cloes has been already employed and that your school term will end within a few weeks, it will not be necessary for her to have a permit to teach the balance of the term.

I have to thank you for your personal allusion to myself and in the matter of receiving the endorsement of both houses of the legislature for reappointment. This was most gratifying to me, of course, and doubly so, inasmuch as it was not solicited by me.

With very best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

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Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 5, 1917

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Mr. F. H. Karrer,
522 West 123d St.,
New York City

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 24, in which you ask if any further action has been taken by the legislature of Alaska relative to the creation of the office of assistant superintendent of public instruction for this Territory, since the ruling and findings of Solicitor Preston C. West.

In reply I have to advise you that Congress, on March 3, passed a bill empowering the Alaska legislature to make appropriations for the maintenance of schools in incorporated towns and outside of such communities, and also such laws as may be necessary to perfect an efficient school system. A bill is now pending in the Territorial legislature, providing for a new educational system for Alaska. This bill also provides for the creation of a commissioner of education, and a board of education. As stated, the bill has not yet passed, but it undoubtedly will be.

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

135

April 5, 1917

15-1

Miss Anna Minahan,

Oconto Falls, Wisconsin

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 25, with reference to the education of deaf and defective children in Alaska. I note you urge that a school for the education of defective children be established in this Territory, but, inasmuch as the number of defective children in the Territory is so small, it seems to me that it would be an economical mistake to maintain a school in the Territory at this time. Such children as are defective will be cared for by the Territory in the schools of one or more of the States. However, there are very few children needing education of this kind. Doubtless the time will come when Alaska must have an institution of this kind, but, in my judgment, the time has not yet arrived.

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 7, 1917

15-1

Mrs. Susan H. Playter,
Farmington, N. M.

Dear Madam:

In response to the request contained in your letter of the 27th ultimo, addressed to the Governor, there is enclosed herewith a copy of a school circular containing information with regard to the white schools of this Territory, the certification of teachers, etc.

Under separate cover, there is being mailed to you a copy of a circular of information to prospective homesteaders, which I trust will give you the information which you desire.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

14-1

234 = 2³⁹

Juneau, April 6, 1917. O. B. Govt. NIGHT rate paid.

Honorable Wm. C. Houston,
Chairman House Committee on Territories,
WASHINGTON.

Difference opinion exists among members Alaska legislature now in session as to whether the act of March three, nineteen seventeen, public number three hundred eighty five, authorizing Alaska legislature to establish and maintain schools gives that body full control over all incorporated town schools and the schools outside incorporated towns which latter have heretofore been established and maintained under act of January twenty seven, nineteen hundred five, commonly called the Alaska road and school law. Opinion of some is that legislature has full control of all these schools under act March third above mentioned, while others contend that authority of legislature extends only to matter of making appropriations in aid of these schools. Legislature considering uniform school system law, and scope of its authority under ^{act} March third ~~act~~ important feature this time, particularly as regards schools heretofore established outside incorporated towns under act January twenty seven, nineteen hundred five which have been supported from twenty five per centum of Alaska fund. Request that you advise by wire what intent of Congress was in consideration and passage of act of March third, and whether that act was meant to repeal the school portion of act of January twenty seven, nineteen hundred five, except as to school funds for maintenance ^{of} schools outside incorporated towns. Of course legislature has no jurisdiction over schools for natives.

I certify that this telegram is an official business, and necessary for the public service, and will not bear the delay incident to the mails.

STRONG, Governor.

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Wm. Shortt
Secretary to the Governor of Alaska.

April 9, 1917

14-1

Hon. Nate H. Coombs,
House of Representatives,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Sir:

In response to your oral request as to the intent of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1917, relating to the public schools of Alaska, I wired Hon. W. C. Houston, Chairman of the House Committee on Territories as to his interpretation of the powers conferred upon the Territorial legislature by that act, a copy of which telegram is herewith enclosed.

I am also transmitting herewith a copy of a telegram of April 9, received from Judge Houston, which is self-explanatory.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent of Public Instruction

Encs.

Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to HELEN BENNET, of KILANAR, Alaska, who having presented a General Elementary Teachers' Certificate of the State of Georgia, and satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska for two years from the date hereof, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this ninth day of April, 1917.

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Granted upon:

State of Georgia first
grade Elementary Certifi-
cated, dated June 14, 1914.

April 11, 1917

15-2

Mrs. L. S. Hopkins,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Madam:

With further reference to your application for a permit to teach in the schools of Alaska, it is noted that you state you received no diploma from the normal school, the course taken by you being a special six weeks' course for teachers.

In reply I have to advise you that as the school term is now nearing to a close, no objection will be made by this office to your finishing the term. In the meantime, before the beginning of another school year, it is undoubted that the bill relating to the schools of the Territory, now being considered in the Territorial legislature will have become law, and, therefore, no regulations will be issued as to the qualification of teachers for the schools of the Territory.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

141

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Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to EUGENIA KELLEN SCHAEFFER, of Nechan, Alaska, who having presented a California State Normal School diploma, and satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska for two years from the date hereof, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this 13th day of April, 1918.

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Granted upon:

State of California
Normal School Diploma,
dated December 16, 1906.

April 12, 1917

15-2

Mrs. Eugenia Kellen Schaeffer,

Hechan, Alaska

Dear Madam:

In compliance with your letter of the 24th ultimo, a permit to teach in the schools of Alaska has been issued to you this date, and is enclosed herewith.

Your State of California normal school diploma is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to J. M. SOWERS, of Douglas, Alaska, who having presented a teacher's diploma of the University of Washington, Department of Education and a Bachelor of Science degree, and satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska for two years from September 1, 1916, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this 16th day of April, 1917.

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Granted upon

Teacher's diploma,
University of Washing-
ton, and degree of B.S.

April 17, 1917

14-1

Mr. M. Lickwald,

Matanuska, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 9, in which you say that last fall you send a petition to the clerk of the court at Valdez, praying for the organization of a school district to be known as Finger Lake school district and you were advised that such organization could not be effected at that time. Undoubtedly, you were thus advised by reason of the fact that the clerks of the district courts were instructed by this office not to organize additional school districts because of the fact that there were no funds available to maintain schools therein. This situation is now past, and I believe that there will be ample funds provided for the maintenance of all schools in the Territory during the next school year.

You are therefore advised to again take up the matter with the clerk of the court at Valdez. I assume that such petition has been signed by the requisite number of people living within the proposed school district, and that you have the necessary number of children to authorize the or-

ganization of a school district at the place mentioned in
your letter.

I shall be pleased to advise you further, if you find
additional information to be necessary.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 17, 1917

14-1

Mr. I. Wales, Treasurer,
Flat School District,
Flat, Alaska

Dear Sir:

Your letter of March 12 is at hand in which you say that your bond and certificate of election were given to attorney Henry Roden in June, 1916. In any event, Mr. Roden must have failed to forward them, as they have never been received at this office.

Permit me to suggest that hereafter you mail all papers connected with your school board direct to this office. It is also advisable that they should be mailed early in order that your estimates for the maintenance of your school may be acted upon promptly.

A requisition for your school has already been made and you will, no doubt, receive the amount asked for in due course.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

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April 17, 1917

14-1

Mrs. Alyce Anderson,
Ninilchik, Alaska

My dear Mrs. Anderson:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 25, with reference to a complaint made to the effect that you were engaged in running a store at Ninilchik. I have read your letter carefully and I fail to see wherein you have acted in any way that merited criticism of any kind.

Of course, you will understand that I know of the small town talk that is all too prevalent throughout Alaska. When the people have nothing else to do, they talk about each other, and in a very uncomplimentary way, and imagine things that really never occurred. Prevarication, not to say downright lying, seems to be rampant in many communities. But I suppose this is a condition that cannot be eradicated and, therefore, must be tolerated as best it may.

I also note what you say with regard to the election held in November last and that it was one of the precincts in which no persuasion was used to induce voters to vote any particular ticket. This is as it should be, and is an American custom that should always be observed. Voters should

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at all times be given the opportunity for a free expression of their choice in the matter of electing officials.

I also note that your daughter is conducting a store at Saldovia. As a matter of fact, I have received a letter or two from her since she engaged in the mercantile business for herself. I am also today in receipt of a card announcing her marriage. She is a splendid girl and I have no doubt that she made an excellent selection. She deserves a good husband in every respect.

I trust that you are in good health, and with best wishes, I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor

April 17, 1917

14-1

Mr. H. A. Pinger, Treasurer,
Treadwell School District,
Treadwell, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 17, in which you say that before preparing estimates of money needed for the support of the Treadwell School district for the school year 1917-18, you would appreciate knowing beforehand that the amount asked for as salaries for the teachers will be confirmed by this office and not changed after the teachers were engaged as was done last year.

In the first place, permit me to point out to you that it does not concern you in any shape, form or manner whether this office changes the salaries of teachers or otherwise, as that is a matter that is strictly within the purview of this office and not of the Treadwell or any other school board. Therefore, when it is believed that salaries are too low, this office at all times reserves the right to increase them; conversely, if it is believed that they are too high, this office reserves the right to reduce them, in accordance with salaries paid elsewhere under similar conditions.

It has been reported to this office that after the salaries of the teachers were increased last year, the amount of the increase was appropriated by the owners of the school building as additional rent, and, if this be true, a manifest injustice was done the teachers.

You are advised to prepare your estimates as usual, and if they are deemed satisfactory, they will be passed, and a requisition will be made for a sum necessary for the maintenance of your school.

Respectfully,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 17, 1917

14-3

Prof. L. D. Henderson, Supt.,
Juneau Public Schools,
Juneau, Alaska

My dear Professor:

Enclosed herewith find two tickets to the Public School
Musicals held on Tuesday evening last. I did not hand these
to the ticket taker on account of going upstairs to see if
I could find a seat, which I could not, and when I returned
to the main hall, I forgot to surrender my tickets. Will you,
therefore, be good enough to pass them to the proper party.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor

Encs.

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April 17, 1917

14-1

Hon. Frank H. Waskey,
Willow Creek,
Fortuna Ledge, Alaska

My dear Frank:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 27, with reference to securing a Territorial school for your section. It is noted that initial steps have already been taken to this end, but that there is some difference of opinion as to whether your school should be located at Fortuna Ledge (formerly Marshall) or in the town of Jungle, on Willow Creek, ten miles distant from Fortuna Ledge, both towns being within the area designated in the petition for the organization of a school district. You add that it is possible that on the opening of navigation this year, there will be resident in each of the above-mentioned towns, a sufficient number of children of school age to entitle each to a school.

In reply I have to advise you that the Territory will no doubt have sufficient funds to maintain not only the schools already organized, but such as may be organized hereafter. The legislature is working now on a new school law for the Territory, Congress having practically turned over

the control of the schools to the legislature, and I believe that, before the session is ended, a fairly practicable school law will have been evolved from the legislative inner consciousness. At least I hope so.

Under the old law, as you know, the sum of \$1,000 only was allowed for the construction and equipment of a school house in a new district. The bill now being considered increases this amount to \$1500, and I believe it will not be reduced below that amount. The new school bill now being discussed also provides for reducing the number of white children required to enable a school district to be organized from twenty to ten, and this, no doubt, will be a feature of the new law.

Further, you state that a petition has already gone forward, designating Fertuna Ledge as the point at which the school shall be established, but that the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number would seem to demand that said location be determined as stated in the first paragraph of your letter. This is a matter that must be determined by the residents of the proposed school district, as the only data this office has to go upon is the mere fact that the clerk of the court for your judicial division has organized a school district in compliance with the request of the people resident therein. I would advise you, therefore, that you take up this matter immediately with the clerk of the court at Nome.

In this connection, I have received the following telegram from the clerk of the court:

"New school district will be organized soon at Fortuna Lodge."

If you have a sufficient number of children to organize two districts, manifestly you must get busy at once and make the necessary showing to the clerk of the court.

Trusting that you are in good health, and with assurances of my personal esteem, I am,

Srdially yours,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 17, 1917

14-1

Mr. G. A. Adams,
Clerk of the Court,
Nome, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your telegram of April
13, as follows:

"New school district will be organized soon at
Fortuna Ledge. Also it is expected a school will
be organized at Dime Creek not later than Septem-
ber."

I have received a letter from Hon. Frank M. Waskey
with reference to the Fortuna Ledge school, in which it is
suggested that it is possible that two schools will be re-
quired in that district. I have advised him to take up this
matter with you at once to the end that if a sufficient
number of children are living in the Fortuna Ledge Recording
District to enable them to secure two schools, that action
should be taken in sufficient time to have the schools in
operation at the beginning of the next school year, in
September.

A school bill is now being considered in the Territorial
legislature which may materially change the method of organis-

ing districts and the operation of schools. The bill has not as yet passed, and, therefore, it is too early to discuss it.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 17, 1917

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Mr. Oren W. Hankins,
81 West Tenth Ave.,
Columbus, O.

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 8, in which you state that you had met my old friend, Doctor S. Hall Young, who was recently in your city, and that he stimulated your interest in educational work in Alaska and in the future University of Alaska in particular, and you ask if a place could not be found for you in the English Department of the future University of Alaska.

In reply I have to state that the University of Alaska is still in an embryonic stage. A bill now being considered in the Territorial legislature, provides for an appropriation for the first building of this institution, but whether it will pass or not, I cannot say at this time. In any event, some two or three years must pass before this university will be in commission and ready to receive students. You will readily understand that it is impossible for us, at this time, to hold out to you any encouragement of an appointment such as you seek.

Yours very truly,

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Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 19, 1917.

14-1

Mr. J. N. Coker,
Treasurer, Craig School District,
Craig, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Coker:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 14th instant, addressed to the Governor, enclosing tally sheet, list of voters, and certificate of judges of election, covering the school election held in your district on the 9th instant. Ballots cast at said election also accompanied your letter.

You state that you will be leaving for the States about May first, to remain, and ask as to the winding up of your affairs as treasurer of the school district.

As you will probably be leaving Craig before the close of school, it will be necessary for you to close your accounts as treasurer before the time that your successor would, ordinarily, take over the duties of the office. However, if Mr. Halverson has executed a bond in due form by the time you are ready to close your accounts, it will be in order for you to turn over the office to him on the date that you r accounts are closed, and to pay over to him such unexpended funds as may then be on hand, taking his receipt therefor, which should be in triplicate; you to retain a copy, he to retain a copy for the permanent files of the office of Treasurer, and the third copy to be sent to this office with your final report.

Your report, which should be made out in duplicate on the blanks herewith enclosed, should cover the school year to the date on which you close your accounts, showing all receipts and disbursements, and should be accompanied by receipts, receipted bills, etc., covering all payments made by you, the same as has been done in the case of regular annual reports heretofore. The original report, with receipts and receipted bills, should be mailed to this office, while the duplicate should be filed with your successor, together with the duplicate receipts and receipted bills.

In the event your successor has not executed his bond and forwarded it to the Clerk of the Court at Juneau by the time you are ready to close your accounts, you should make up your report as above mentioned, but instead of turning the unexpended funds over to your successor you should forward the same to this office in the form of a post office money order drawn on the Ketchikan post office, and made payable to L. K. Halverson, Treasurer. It will then be held until Mr. Halverson has executed his bond, when it will be sent to him by this office.

Mr. Halverson will be instructed, upon surrender of the office by you to him, to serve out your term and disburse such funds as may be necessary in connection therewith, and to submit a report of same in due form.

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(Mr. J. N. Coker, p. 2)

Blanks for report of the various officers of your district, and for estimates of funds needed for the school year 1917-18, were sent to the Clerk of the school board some time ago.

Faithfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor.

Encls.

April 19, 1917

15-2

Miss Edna D. Robb,
Seward, Alaska

Dear Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 11th instant, enclosing your Arkansas teacher's license, which bears an endorsement showing its extension to June 24, 1917. An Alaska permit has this day been issued to you for a period of two years from September 1, 1916, and the same is herewith enclosed, together with your Arkansas license.

The present session of the Alaska legislature has under consideration a general school law and it is probable that provision will be made in that law for the issuance of life certificates.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

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Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to MISS EDNA D. ROBB, of Seward, Alaska, who having presented a State of Arkansas Teacher's License, and satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska for two years from September 1, 1916, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this nineteenth day of April, 1917.

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Granted upon:

State of Arkansas
Teacher's License
dated June 24, 1911.

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April 19, 1917

14-1

Mrs. Lillian W. Daniels, Secretary,
Treadwell School Board,
Treadwell, Alaska

Dear Madam:

Replying to your letter of the 16th instant, addressed to the Governor, in which you inquire as to the probable length of the school term for the year 1917-18, I beg to advise that, in all probability, the various schools will be given the usual term of nine months. This will depend, of course, upon certain legislation now pending before the Alaska Territorial legislature, but it is believed that ample funds will be provided for all schools for the full period of nine months.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

April 19, 1917

14-1

Mr. J. W. Bell, Clerk,

United States District Court,

Juneau, Alaska

Dear Sir:

Herewith I beg to transmit the following school papers just received from the treasurer of the Treadwell school district: Notice of 1917 school election; certificates of director, clerk and treasurer, and oaths of office of these officials. These papers should, of course, have been sent to you in the first instance, and I am so advising the treasurer of the school district.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

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April 19, 1917

14-1

Mr. H. A. Finger, Treasurer,
Treadwell School District,
Treadwell, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 17th instant, addressed to the Governor, enclosing notice of school election, certificates and oaths of office of the director, clerk and the treasurer of the Treadwell school district, who were chosen at the election held on the ninth instant.

These papers are being forwarded by this office to Mr. J. W. Bell, clerk of the United States District Court at Juneau, to whom they should have been sent in the first instance, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

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April 20, 1917

15-1

Mrs. Flora D. Tobin,
Leata, Oregon

Dear Madam:

Your letter of April 12, in which you state your desire to secure a school in Alaska is at hand. I am, therefore, enclosing herewith a circular letter containing a list of the white schools in Alaska, both outside of incorporated towns and unincorporated communities. You are advised to apply directly to the boards of school trustees of the respective districts for a position. This office makes no appointments whatsoever, that being done by the school boards.

I have no doubt that, should you secure a school, you would give excellent satisfaction, as I note from your statements that you have had a large experience and, I judge, have excellent teaching ability.

If I can be of any further service to you, command me.

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 20, 1917

15-1

Miss Ethel Forbes,
1109 13th Avenue south,
Seattle, Wash.

My dear Miss Forbes:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 14, in which you express your desire to secure a school in Alaska.

In reply I have to state that the school regulations now in force in this Territory require that teachers employed in the public schools shall have had previous teaching experience, or that they shall be graduates of a recognized normal school, college or university.

A bill now being considered by the Territorial legislature, and which will undoubtedly become law, provides for a thorough reorganization of the school system of Alaska, including the creation of a board of education, and a commissioner of Education, who shall have active direction of the schools. This bill, as I have said, will undoubtedly pass and will go into effect early next month. Just what changes will be made, I cannot say at this time, or what effect they will have upon the schools of the Territory.

It is needless to say that I would be delighted to assist you in securing a school, and I would suggest that you take an examination for teacher in your state, as diplomas of the State of Washington are recognized anywhere in Alaska. I am sure that you possess all the necessary qualifications for a very capable teacher. The school term begins the first week in September, and the time intervening might enable you to secure a school. In any event, I shall assist you as much as I can.

I note, with pleasure, that your father will be located in Skagway, although, of course, we would have preferred it had his headquarters been in Juneau.

Now, as to opportunities in the musical profession in Alaska, I am inclined to think that these are not alluring, although it is possible that in a town the size of Juneau, you might achieve some success.

With further reference to the issuance of certificates to teach in the schools, I may add that permits to teach for a period of not to exceed two years are sometimes issued to persons not having previous teaching experience in cases of emergency; that is where trained teachers cannot be had, but these schools are usually located in the remote places, where, it is possible, you would not care to teach, and, as a matter of fact, I could not recommend that you do so.

As soon as the new school law has been passed, I shall further advise you, and if I can learn of any opening that would be suitable for you, I shall advise you at once.

I am enclosing herewith a school circular containing the names of the various school districts, both inside and outside of incorporated towns. These are strictly white schools. As you may know, the native schools are under the direct control of the United States Bureau of Education, Mr. W. T. Lepp, of Seattle, whose office is in the L. C. Smith Building, being the Chief of the Alaska Bureau.

Both Mrs. Strong and myself will be very glad to meet your father and you when you come to Alaska.

I have to thank you for your kind expressions in my behalf, and while I am not anxious for another term as Governor I shall probably accept a reappointment, should it be tendered. However, I am not an active candidate for reappointment for the good and sufficient reason that I would like to have a rest after four years of strict attention to duty.

With very best wishes, and assuring you that it will give me much pleasure to give you any assistance to you that it may be possible, I am,

Cordially yours,

April 24, 1917

15-3

Mr. Henry H. Sweets, Secretary,
The Presbyterian Church in the United States,
Department of Education,
122 South Fourth Ave.,
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Sir:

I have for acknowledgment your letter of March 7, with reference to an outline course in morals and manners in use in the public schools of Alaska, and in which you request a copy of the same. You also ask for a copy of the law of Alaska with regard to state instructions on the use of the bible or religious worship in the public schools.

In reply I have to advise you that the outline of course in morals and manners is that suggested by E. E. White. We have no copies of this for distribution.

With respect to the use of the bible, or religious worship in the public schools, we have no law in Alaska covering this matter.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

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Department of Public Instruction

ALASKA TEACHER'S PERMIT

THIS PERMIT has been awarded by the Territorial Department of Public Instruction to MISS A. MARY MITCHELL, of Ketchikan, Alaska, who having presented satisfactory evidence of good moral character and successful experience in teaching, as required by law, is hereby authorized to teach in the white schools of Alaska for two years from the date hereof, unless this permit be revoked for cause.

GIVEN at Juneau, Alaska, this twenty-seventh day of April, 1917.

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Renewal permit

April 25, 1917

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Mr. Frederick E. Bolton,
Dean, College of Education,
University of Washington,
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your telegram of April 23, recommending superintendent Floy Tracy of Douglas, for appointment as commissioner of education.

In reply I have to advise you that your telegram will be filed among other recommendations received by this office on behalf of Miss Tracy.

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

April 26, 1917

14-1

Mrs. Alyce Anderson,

Ninilchik, Alaska

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 4, and its several enclosures, with reference to the complaint made to this office that you had been conducting a store at Ninilchik.

In reply, as I wrote you some little time since, so far as this office is concerned, the incident may be considered closed. I may add that your explanations have been entirely satisfactory to this office.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor

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April 26, 1917
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Mr. E. S. Hewitt,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 23, in which you recommend Miss Floy Tracy, of Douglas, for the position of Commissioner of Education for Alaska.

In reply I have to advise you that your letter will be filed with Miss Tracy's credentials, and will be placed before the board of education, which makes the appointment, when it shall meet.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor

April 28, 1917

14-1

Mr. G. J. Lomen,

Nome, Alaska

My dear Judge:

I have your letter of March 8, with reference to the idea advanced by Miss Margaret Heekouts of San Fernando, California, as to the establishment of evening schools in Alaska after the Territory goes dry.

In reply I have to advise you that a bill is now pending in the legislature which provides for the organization of what I believe the bill calls "citizenship" schools; that is, they are intended to educate, to a limited extent at least, men and women who are desirous of becoming citizens of the United States and incidentally to afford them education of a practical nature. Whether this bill will be passed or not, I cannot say. Speaking by and large, however, as to the establishment of evening schools in Alaska, I do not believe that the field is a very extensive one. An evening school was conducted in Juneau during the past winter, with some success, by the teachers of the Juneau public schools. A small tuition fee was charged. Should the bill referred to be passed, I shall forward you a copy for your information.

Yours very truly,

Governor

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April 27, 1917

15-2

Mrs. L. S. Hopkins,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Madam:

In response to the request contained in your letter of the 24th instant, addressed to the Governor, your high school diploma is returned to you herewith.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

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May 1, 1917

14-1

Mr. I. J. Macomber, Clerk,
Chichagof School Board,
Chichagof, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 27th ultimo, addressed to the Governor, in which you inquire whether or not sufficient funds will be available to maintain the school at Chichagof for a full nine months' term during the ensuing year.

In reply you are advised that in all probability the various schools of the Territory will be enabled to continue as heretofore, it being expected that the legislature, which is now in session, will make an appropriation supplemental to the school section of the Alaska fund so as to provide for all school districts. I think your school board will be safe in proceeding on this basis.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

May 1, 1917

14-1

Mr. M. V. Lattin, Treasurer,
McCarthy School District,
McCarthy, Alaska

My dear Mr. Lattin:

I have your letter of the 22d ultimo, with reference to school expenditures, in which you ask whether, in case the expenditures under a given heading are less than the amount allowed for that particular purpose, the surplus may be used for some other purpose.

The general rule of this office is that the expenditures for a given purpose must not exceed the amount allowed for that purpose. Occasionally, however, the rule is varied from, but only where the school board makes application for the transfer of funds from one item to another, and makes a satisfactory showing as to the necessity therefor. I think there will be no objection made by this office should the McCarthy school board use any surplus under one or more items for purposes called for under some other items, so long as the expenditures are absolutely necessary for the maintenance of the school, and especially since you state you may have a hundred or so to turn back at the close of the school term. In case this

is done, your annual report should be accompanied by a brief explanation showing why the surplus under one or more headings was used for some other purpose.

With kind regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

April 30, 1917

15-3

Mr. B. H. Jolly.

County Supt. of Schools,

St. Charles, Missouri

Dear Sir:

In response to the request contained in your letter of the 17th ultimo, there is being mailed to you, under separate cover, a copy of the Governor's last annual report, in which will be found a brief reference to the white schools of the Territory. A separate report on the white schools of Alaska is not published, nor have we as yet a standard course of study.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Juneau
May 3, 1917 O. B.

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Adams,

Clerk of Court,

Nome

New school law passed by legislature, which has been approved, provides for organization school districts with not less than ten children instead twenty as provided in Nelson law. Clerks of courts of different judicial divisions are authorized to organize school districts as heretofore provided, but not to exceed more than forty square miles in area.

STRONG, Governor


Secretary

May 3, 1917

14-1

Mr. Malcolm J. McNeill,
Clerk, Knik School District,
Knik, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 16th ultimo, addressed to the Governor, and I am directed to say in reply that your school board may arrange for the employment of a teacher for the 1917-18 school year, at the same rate of pay which has heretofore been allowed and for a period of nine months.

Your estimates should be submitted as soon as possible, covering requirements for the ensuing school year. Blanks for estimates and reports were mailed to the clerk of your school board some time ago.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

May 4, 1917

15-1

Prof. A. F. Boyd,

Fullerton, La.

Dear Sir:

I am directed by Governor Strong to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 27th of January last, addressed "Governor Juneau, Nome, Alaska," with reference to securing employment in one of the schools of Alaska, and enclosing a number of testimonials.

With return of the enclosures which accompanied your letter, I beg to advise you that the employment of teachers in the white schools of this Territory is left entirely to the respective school boards. The Governor, who has up to this been ex officio superintendent of public instruction, has exercised no function in connection with the employment of teachers.

By an act passed at the third session of the Territorial legislature, which has just adjourned, provision is made for a Territorial board of education and the appointment of a superintendent of public instruction, who will have active charge of all the white schools in the Territory. It is probable, however, that the actual employment of teachers

will continue to rest in the hands of the local school board, subject to such rules and regulations as the board of education and the superintendent may deem advisable.

Enclosed herewith is a school circular, on the back of which will be found a complete list of the white schools of this Territory. At the present time, this office does not know of any vacancies.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Enc.

May 4, 1917

14-1

Mr. Daniel Webster,
Nolan, Alaska

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 31, with reference to your application and the petition of the people of your section for the establishment of a school at Coldfoot and another at Wiseman. I note what you say with regard to the inestimable privileges of schooling, with which I will quite agree.

You are in error, however, when you suggest that the establishment of a school at Fox, in the Fairbanks precinct, with only seven children, is indicative of a "pull." Let me explain to you that the school at Fox was established before I became Governor, and the records of this office show that at the time it was established there were 26 white children between the ages of six and twenty, residing within the proposed district, as required by law. It has also happened that the number of children in that school district decreased after it was established and in operation, it has not been the policy of this office to deprive the people of the privilege of education for their children, even if they have not the required

number of children residing within the district. The point is that before such school district could be established, it was necessary that the twenty children be shown to be residing therein. Whether the law was disregarded and false returns made by the people of Fox, I am unable to say.

Since I have been Governor, I have, in every way, tried to secure the establishment of schools whenever the necessary showing could be made under the law, which, of course, I could not evade. If a proposed school district showed that they did not have twenty white children, then necessarily the district could not be established. In my several reports to the Department of the Interior, I have recommended that the number of children residing in a proposed school district should be reduced to 15 or even ten, in order to give them the advantages of education. However, I succeeded in having the control of the schools transferred to the Territory during the last session of Congress, and I have to advise that a bill which I had the pleasure of signing yesterday provides that communities having ten or more white children may be now established. If, therefore, you have the required number of white children of school age, namely, six to 20 years, residing at Coldfoot and Wiseman, you will be entitled to a school at each place under the new law.

You are, therefore, advised to prepare your petitions, giving the number of children residing within the proposed

school district, which cannot be more than forty square miles in area, and forward the petitions to the clerk of the court at Fairbanks. The law also provides that a maximum sum of \$1800 may be appropriated for the construction and equipment of school houses. I would also suggest that upon the receipt of this, you act promptly so that you may be enabled to get the schools established at the above points as soon as possible.

Assuring you of my support in every way possible, I am,

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio superintendent
of Public Instruction

Juneau, May 5, 1917

O. B.

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Judge Brown,

Valdez

Replying yours yesterday, House Bill number thirty-five was approved April twenty three and carried emergency clause, putting it into effect immediately upon approval.

STRONG, Governor

Secretary

May 8, 1917

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Mr. John H. D. Bouse,

Valdez, Alaska

My dear John:

I want to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of the fourth instant, endorsing Professor F. G. Davis for appointment as Commissioner of Education for the Territory.

In reply I have to advise that on Saturday last Mr. L. D. Henderson, of Juneau, was elected to that position. While the law providing for the creation of the office of Commissioner of Education called for a meeting on May 1, it was not held until Saturday, May 5, when the senators composing the board, with the exception of Hubbard, were about to leave the city.

I may say to you, somewhat confidentially, that Mr. Davis stood no show for the appointment on account of senatorial courtesy, there being three senators opposed to his appointment, and this fact left the other two members of the board no alternative but to vote for the next best man (Mr. Henderson), although two ladies were also candidates for the position.

I trust that you continue in your usual good health, and with very best wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

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Governor

May 9, 1917

15-1

Miss Ethel Forbes,

1109 Thirteenth Ave., S.,

Seattle, Wash.

My dear Miss Forbes:

I have your letter of April 29, with reference to your securing employment in Juneau, either in the schools or in some other capacity. I note that you state you have written Mr. Winn, of the Juneau school board, in the hope that you may get the supervision of music in the Juneau schools. I shall certainly do what I can to assist you in this, but I am of the opinion that they already have such supervisor.

Now, with respect to securing a position in a moving picture house, you ask whether it would "kill" you professionally with the Juneau people. I am somewhat diffident about answering this question, as, frankly speaking, I do not know, but I should judge not, inasmuch as Professor Wells, a well known teacher of music in Juneau, plays a pipe organ in one of the local picture houses. There are four of these in Juneau, namely, the Palace, the Coliseum, the Orpheum and the Dream, and each employs musicians. The Palace and Dream have orchestras of three pieces each, and the Coliseum has an

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organist, a Professor Angal, formerly of Tacoma. It is my opinion that Juneau, as a field for music teachers, is fully occupied, but in this I may be mistaken. It is possible, however, that you would be successful in the music field in Juneau.

I wish to assure you that I shall be pleased to assist you in whatever way I can, and I trust that some way may be open whereby you can secure a position of some kind.

With very best wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

Governor

May 9, 1917

15-1

Prof. L. D. Henderson,
Commissioner of Education,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter from Mrs.
Ethel Combs Willard, which is self-explanatory.

Yours very truly,

Governor, ex officio Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Enc.

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