

Marquette University

**e-Publications@Marquette**

---

Alaska

Missions

---

1930

## Alaska, Holy Cross, Holy Crosss Mission School and Pimute School, 1930

William M. Hughes

*Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions*

Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions

Follow this and additional works at: [https://epublications.marquette.edu/ak\\_corr](https://epublications.marquette.edu/ak_corr)

---

### Recommended Citation

Correspondence Files, Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, Marquette University, Department of Archival Collections and Institutional Repository

Archives and Institutional Repository - Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions

MISSION SCHOOLS-20  
ALASKA  
HOLY CROSS  
HOLY CROSS MISSION SCHOOL AND PIMUTE SCHOOL  
1930

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

40-1

Rev. J. L. Lucchesi, S.J.  
Pimute,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Lucchesi:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$50, covering  
the gift of the children of Nativity School, Missouri, which they  
designated for you.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*

FM:

I enclose a letter addressed to you by Sister Benita of  
Nativity School.

Received the check named above

(Signed) *J. L. Lucchesi S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

40-1

Recd. App. 28 January 15, 1930.

Ans. 2/1/30

Filed

Letter to

Order filed

Receipt

Copy to

Rev. J. L. Lucchesi, S.J.,  
Pimute,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Lucchesi:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$2.00, covering  
the gift of Miss Martha E. Hopkins, Maryland, and which  
designated for you.

Upon receipt of this donation please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

MF

I am also enclosing a letter to you from Miss Hopkins.

Received the check named above

(Signed)

*J L Lucchesi S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)



COPY FOR: BUREAU

Holy Cross, Alaska,  
January 23, 1930.

40-1

Mrs. H. B. Craft,  
Pennsylvania,

Kind Benefactress:

Some time before Christmas the Sisters received a nice sum of money which added to our Christmas a great deal of happiness. Your kindly gift added to the list which went to get toys for us. You may be sure we enjoyed the toys. The boys hailed for joy when they were given their famous "Wolverine Toys." They were so instructive that the boys brought them to school, and we had almost an hour of looking at them work. We, the girls, also received games, dolls, embroidery and ever so many other things. How much we thank your, dear Friend.

On the 23rd of December, we had a Christmas tree in each classroom with presents on it, that the Sisters had prepared in tissue paper and Christmas ribbon and tags. There were as many packages on the tree as we were pupils in the class, and each one's package was purchased by the amount of toy money earned in school since September. I had a lovely picture of Our Lady of Sorrows. Others had necklaces and stationery. We had this lovely surprise when we came to school at 4 P.M. At 10 A.M. that day we went to the next lower class and had a History Match on Exploration and Indians of South America. When this contest was over we found we had lost by one.

I am sure you will be interested to hear of how we spent our Christmas.

On the 24th we all retired at 6 P.M. and were aroused at Midnight for Mass. Having finished we had a lunch and went to bed. We were awakened at 7 A.M. and had breakfast and then had Mass again at 9 o'clock. The latter part of the forenoon, we who had parents went to spend the time with them. We had Benediction at 5:30 and then supper. Having finished we had fire works and a large bon-fire. Then we had a lovely concert which ended at 10 o'clock.

Here is a short account of the concert we had. We gave the play "Marley's Ghost." The characters in it were Scrooge, Marley, Scrooge's nephew, his wife and four children. There were also two ladies who wished to make a fund for the poor. And a rich family named the "Crachits." A lovely little piece, entitled, "By-Lo Land" acted by the kindergarten children. "A Christmas Lullaby" sung by the Seniors. A recitation entitled "The Master Is Coming." A duet played by two Senior girls and last of all Holy Cross, My Holy Cross. This ended up the play and we all retired.

Your grateful children of Holy Cross,

(Signed by) Angela Demientieff, Grade VII.

Copied by HC.

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

[Rec'd Muzel 12, 1930]

40-1

Very Rev. Philip Delon, 1899. Amt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy Cross, Alaska. Amt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Alaska. Amt. \_\_\_\_\_

November 6, 1929

Dear Father Delon: \_\_\_\_\_  
Order lined \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Smp O.K. \_\_\_\_\_

Ship enclose herewith Bureau check for \$5 which is  
the gift of Mr. William D. Stepp, New York, New York,  
designated for you. Check sent \_\_\_\_\_

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*

W.P.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

Received the check named above *Holy Cross, Alaska, 1-27-30*

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

*P. J. Delon*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

Copy for Bureau  
"orig. Cath. Miss. Aid Soc."

Holy Cross, Alaska.  
Jan 28, 1930.

To,  
an Unknown Benefactor,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.  
c/o Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions,  
Wash., D.C.

Dear Benefactor:

A check for \$200 the gift of an unknown friend of our Alaska Missions, transmitted by Monsignor Danner of Pittsburgh, Pa., to the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, has just reached me.

Accept my most sincere thanks, dear unknown friend of our Missions, and may He, who never allows Himself to be outdone in generosity, abundantly reward you.

A sketch of some of the good we are able to accomplish through the assistance we receive from generous benefactors like yourself, I am sure, will interest you.

In the summer of 1927, we started a new mission at a village called Kashunak, 500 miles from here, and situated on the desolate shores of the Bering coast.

To that date, there was not a single soul in that community of one hundred and twenty that had been admitted to the Sacraments. Today, after two and a half years' residence among them, the Father in charge reports all the adults going faithfully to Mass every morning and a large number of daily Communions. He also says he "would not be ashamed to put them next to any white congregation in the States, as far as piety is concerned." Their piety is sincere and childlike, and they cease not telling us how happy they are since the Fathers have brought them to God.

It is but a few weeks ago that their faith showed up splendidly under trial. A flood, a real young tidal wave had turned that perfectly flat country into an immense lake, or rather the sea had encroached upon the land for miles and miles, leaving a few knolls, mere clumps of ground here and there above the water.

The village of Kashunak only one and a half miles from the seashore, built on one such small mound, not more than fifteen feet high, and measuring about sixty by one hundred and twenty feet, was entirely cut off from the little church in which the Father himself alone, was marooned, some four hundred feet away.

While the wind in its hurricane speed, was playing havoc with the chapel's roof, and the Father, to prevent further damage, had climbed up on it to nail down the loose pieces and fasten down the chimney, he noticed his people gathered together at the edge of the water, unable to help him, and themselves, (it was evident) more terror-stricken than the Father himself; for they knew better than the Father, that if the storm did not abate, their very lives might be endangered.

They all had been in such storms before, which had always taken their toll, if not actually of lives, at least of their means of subsistence, and right there in that very storm the poor Eskimos could see their winter provision of fish floating about in the salt water and scattering away inland, driven by the wind.

Well, all this the Father could see from his dangerous position on the roof, (where he feared every moment to be given a free ride through the air), but it was impossible for him to talk to his people, even though he knew well that, now more than ever, they needed a word of cheer. However he resolved to make an attempt to get within speaking distance of them, so putting on his long water boots made of seal skin, he began carefully to wade through the salt water, the ice and frozen ground

underneath furnishing him a solid footing. By using great care, he found to his satisfaction that he was able to get within hailing distance, from where he was able to speak to them; he told them to go into their kazhine (community-house) and say their rosary, which they promptly did.

"We were very much afraid till you came", they told him afterwards, (a converted medicine man being the spokesman) "but after you came over and told us to go and pray, we were no longer afraid."

Are these not beautiful sentiments from a people but yesterday in complete ignorance of the things of God?

The simple faith and trust of these poor Eskimo was well rewarded, for though the wind suddenly veered to a still more dangerous quarter, and the regular daily tide was still due, the water unexpectedly lowered its level and the danger was over.

Thus these simple-hearted good Eskimo, having seen visibly the power of prayer, will be strengthened in their faith, and will no doubt become Apostles among their own people, thus effectively assisting us in bringing the people of this far North land, to the Feet of Christ our King.

The above is but one of numerous examples of the good that is being accomplished in this country, through the kind assistance of our generous benefactors, among whom you may well be numbered.

Recommending our Alaska Missions to your fervent prayers, and begging the continuance of your generous charity; I wish to assure you of the prayers of our Fathers, Brothers and Sisters, as well as of our 165 children for both your spiritual and temporal welfare. I am dear benefactor,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Signed)

P. I. Delon, S.J.  
Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J.  
Superior of the Jesuit Missions in Alaska.

PID:AR

Copied by TB.

COPY FOR: Bureau

" " M.E.

" " S.S. Nov. 3/18/30 MB.

orig to donor.

Holy Cross, Alaska.  
January 28, 1930.

The children of the Class of 1929,  
Eighth Grade,  
St. John's School. Conn  
% Sister Rose Miriam.

My dear children:

Your generous and self sacrificing gift which you sent Monsignor Hughes for our Alaskan Missions, reached me about the close of navigation. After the boats stop running, there is a period of several weeks during which we can neither receive nor dispatch mail, and after the winter mail service does begin, it takes a few weeks more to receive and answer letters. So, you will, I am sure, pardon the delay in acknowledging your thoughtful kindness for our Alaskan Missions.

Now, dear children, I suppose you would like to hear something of the work to which you have so kindly made some sacrifice.

We have nearly forty missions and stations on the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers, and the Bering sea, with only sixteen priests to attend them. In several instances, one Father will have two or three missions to take care of, and as many of them are three or four days apart, it means lots of hard traveling for the missionary. Often, after a hard day's journey, he will have to put up with the poorest kind of shelter, and if he gets caught out in a blizzard, which often happens, and has happened to the writer several times, he must crawl into his sleeping bag and stay right there till the storm blows over. In some parts of the country he can not even find enough wood to make a fire to thaw his frozen food. Often, owing to their isolated condition, some of the Fathers can only see a fellow priest once or twice a year. To give you some idea of what a missionary may expect to encounter on the trail, I will relate what happened to one of our Brothers some years ago.

He was stationed with one of our Fathers at St. Michael's, at the mouth of the Yukon river. One winter morning it was decided he should take a small load of lumber which was badly needed, to a mission about twelve miles away. When he started out the weather was very fine, and gave no indication of an approaching blizzard, which overtook him before he was half way. He did not return to St. Michael's that night or the next day, but as the weather was still very stormy, the Father was not alarmed, thinking that the Brother had decided to stay at the mission till the storm had blown over. On the third day the storm abated, but there was still no sign of the Brother, and some people coming from the direction he had taken, reported they had seen no sign of him. The Father now thoroughly alarmed, sent out search parties in every direction, but it was seven days before they found his frozen body. It seems, that when he realized he was caught in a blizzard, he at once unloaded his sled, and tried to make for home, but the blinding snow prevented him from seeing his way, so that he wandered many miles away from the trail, till overcome by exhaustion he laid down on the snow and died.

When found he was lying on his back, his arms outstretched, and his hands in one hand. His dogs who had not had a bite to eat all this time, were sitting quietly around, having made no attempt to molest the corpse. It is only six years ago that Father Rappert was also frozen to death on the trail, while carrying some Christmas gifts to the orphan children at Pilgrim Springs, in the Nome country.

Such are some of the dangers and discomforts that the Fathers have to expect on the trail, but a good missionary minds not the difficulties, if he can but bring souls to Christ.



2

Here at Holy Cross, we have a boarding school with 165 children, partly Eskimo and partly Indian. There are eleven Sisters of St. Ann to teach the school and take care of the girls, besides attending to the cooking, mending, and washing. To look after the boys and to take care of all the outdoor work, there are six Brothers, while two Fathers take care of the spiritual end of the mission. This is our oldest and largest mission in Alaska. We have a small herd of cows, and we also have several acres of land under cultivation, from which we are able to procure all the vegetables needed for the mission, and are able to supply some of our other missions, but for all our other needs we have to depend on the charity of our benefactors in the States.

You, my dear children, by your alms, and more so by your prayers, are helping in the difficult task of propagating our holy Faith amongst these poor people, and may He, who lets no good action go unrewarded, repay you with his choicest blessings both in this life and in the life to come.

For my part, I can assure you that I shall remember you all in my prayers and daily Mass. I shall beg Our dear Lord to pick out from among you a large number of chosen souls who will be generous enough to give up the world and all that it holds out to you, in order to consecrate yourselves, body and soul to His service, and to the salvation of souls. Please pray for me, and may I hear from you again.

Devotedly and gratefully yours in Jesus and Mary,

(Signed) Rev. P. I. Delon, S.J.,  
Superior of the Jesuit Missions in Alaska.

Copied by: FM



COPY FOR: Bureau

Holy Cross, Alaska.  
Jan. 28, 1930.

Miss Henrietta T. Ramm,  
Rt. Rev. Mgr. Wm. Hughes,

My Dear Miss Ramm:

Acting on your suggestion to use his own judgement, Mgr. Hughes has sent me your check of \$60, which you so kindly donated to the Alaska Missions. It was a most welcome gift to us.

Well, dear Miss Ramm, I decided to use the money to pay part of the salary of a very trustworthy and efficient Catechist. I am employing him at a village on Nelson Island, where there has never been a resident priest, and which on account of our shortage of men, we can only visit once, or at most, twice a year. The people are very well disposed, and if we could only provide a priest for the place, there would soon be a very flourishing community of Catholics; thus by employing a Catechist, I am at least preparing the ground for the day when we will be able to establish a permanent Mission among them.

Within the last three years we have established two very successful missions down on the Bering Sea coast, "Kashunak", and Hooper Bay", the people of which, up to that time, had never received any instruction in the truths of our holy religion. There are many other villages scattered along the Bering coast, among whom we are hoping and praying that we may one day be enabled to bring the blessings of our holy faith.

That we are able to accomplish anything at all, is, after taking into account the self-sacrificing spirit of our missionaries, due to the generosity of our kind benefactors, among whom, you may well be numbered.

Begging the continued assistance of your prayers and alms, and asking the dear Sacred Heart to bless and prosper you and all your concerns, I am, dear Miss Ramm,

Sincerely yours in christ,

P. Delon, S.J.

Superior of the Jesuit Missions in Alaska.

COPIED BY MP.

Feb. 2, 1930 40-1  
HOLY CROSS MISSION  
HOLY CROSS, ALASKA

Rec'd MAR 12 1930  
Ans. 2/17/30  
Rt. Rev. Mon. W. Hughes  
2021 H St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
Copy to L.S. O.C. or Ref. Check sent

Dear Monsignor,

Just a hurried note in answer to your request for Masses. I will be more than glad to offer my share. *W.R.M.S.*

Just at present I have no requests to make myself and I think it better that I do not appear in print or become before the "public" until such time as I am in need personally. Possibly next year I may be in another situation and then I shall be glad to overcome my 'bashfulness'.

The wonderful Sentinel is always awaited at Holy Cross and read with enthusiasm. May God bless its generous Editor.

Sincerely in Christ

*J. A. Sorensen S.J.*

Extract for: Bureau  
" " I.S. and Mis. Edition  
Orig. sent Msgr. Danner 3/13/30 MB.

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
Feb. 3, 1930

Mrs. F. J. Lancham,  
(through Very Rev. Msgr. P. G. Danner, V.G., LL.D.)  
My dear Mrs. Lancham:

Some time ago I received from Msgr. Hughes, a check for \$15 a stipend, he tells me, from you for fifteen Masses.

My continuous travelling makes it almost impossible to attend to my correspondence as promptly as I would wish.

In a couple of hours I will be leaving on a missionary trip which will keep me on the trail for the better part of four or five weeks.

However, I am snatching a few moments to thank you for your kind donation, and to assure you that the Masses have been said.

Sincerely yours in the Sacred Heart,  
P. I. Dehon, S.J.  
Superior of the Jesuit Mis. in Alaska.

(signed)

Copied by MB.

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.,  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

February 7, 1930

Dear Father Delon:

On September 20 I wrote you a letter, copy of which I enclose. To date,  
I have not received a reply.

Please let me know as soon as possible your decision about accepting Mrs.  
Kulage's \$1,000 gift for a chapel.

Thanking you in advance for a prompt reply, I remain

Yours fraternally,

MJ:MB.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.



February 7, 1930

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.,  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

I am in receipt of a gift of \$1,000 for the erection of a chapel in Alaska for the Eskimo.

If you have need of such a gift for a chapel, please promptly write a letter of thanks to the donor, Mrs. M. A. Holt, Buffalo, New York, and send it to this Bureau for transmittal by me to the donor.

Should you accept the gift, upon receipt of your letter of thanks, I shall promptly forward you a check of \$1,000.

Thanking you in advance for an early reply, I remain

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Magr. William Hughes,  
Director.

WJ:MB.

The chapel is to be built in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, His Mother and the Blessed Sacrament and given in memory of Doctor C. A. Holt and the donor, Mrs. M. A. Holt. "These are the donor's words." Evidently she has not chosen any particular name. The donor's first name is Mary. A title of the Blessed Mother would be appropriate. As you are sure of the \$1,000 thank Mrs. Holt as having already received the donation.

COPI FOR

Miss Cecilia Reis,  
East St. Louis, Ill.

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska,  
February 24, 1930.

40-1

Dear Miss Reis:

Your kind donation of ten dollars took a very long time to reach me, perhaps because it looked for me at Mt. Village, and I was not there any more, having been transferred to this district of Pimute. It is hard for you in the states to realize what it means in Alaska, where we have mail only once a month, and not even that during the freezing period, or the breaking of the ice. As so far we have no air mail, and are not likely to have it, on account of the very few, comparatively, who write and receive mail in this wilderness. We must be resigned to such delays and make the best of them, at least just as arts of patience and resignation. I thank you very much for your generous donation, inasmuch that it is not the first I received from your family. My record book shows an other donation of \$15 from Mrs. Caroline Reis of East St. Louis, Illinois. Very likely your mother, unless I am mistaken. Anyhow it was very welcome and needed, as I have here a parochial school to support entirely on alms from benefactors and our Eskimos are very poor. Alaska is a very rich country for the big, rich companies, that with their capitals, powerful dredges, machines etc., dig out millions of gold, copper, quick silver every year, not here around however, but for the poor, helpless natives fishing, trapping and hunting are the only, uncertain means of living. You may be sure that your donation is helping much our work and that our gratitude will be substantiated into Masses, Holy Communions and prayers for you and your intentions.

God Bless you. Wishing you a very joyous and holy Easter, I am

Yours grateful,

COPIED BY HS.

(Signed) Rev. John L. Lughesi, S.J.



COPY FOR: Bureau

" " S. J.  
" " M. E.

big. to donor 5/8/30 cw

Miss Anna M. Brennan,  
Conn.

Pimute- (Holy Cross P.O.) Alaska  
February 25, 1930.

40-1

Dear Miss Brennan:

Three cheers for Connecticut! Your generous donation of \$37.50 came to confirm my opinion that Almighty God must have blessed Connecticut people with a large share of the infinite charity of His S. Heart; my opinion is based in facts, viz. on the frequent and generous gifts coming thence to our Mission. I am very grateful to you, and I assure you your help came very opportune and was a real help to me, pinched as I am by many needs in minding this district and our parochial school; all the support must come from the donations of our good Benefactors. It is true that your donation came too late, (against the wishes of your kind heart) to cheer up our Christmas, probably because it did not find me at Mt. Village, having been recalled from there to this place. Our mail service is so scarce and so slow, that when such things happen, they cause delays without end. Alaska is yet...Alaska, a wild, difficult country, the kingdom undisputed of Jack Frost, and darkness. Thanks to God, our Christmas was very happy, and, what is more, very devotional. These simple, new Christians love the Babe of Bethlehem, and Christmas is for them the most eventful and cherished time of all the year. How nicely they prepare for the great Festivity! You would be amused and delighted to see them fill the little wooden Church twice a day during the Novena, unmindful of the intense cold and thick darkness. We have very few hours of daylight in December. I do enjoy to see the good Mothers coming with their big bundle of furs on their back, stop in the little hall, place their bundle on the floor and then unwrapping it carefully till a little face appears and the babe warm, comfortable leaves its cocoon to regain its liberty of action. All pray aloud, and sing appropriate hymns with sincere enthusiasm. They have splendid voices and fine musical hearing. They never tire of singing. The eve of Christmas is indeed a busy day; all want to do something for the church; they young men take their sleds and dogs and go for branches, the women weave them into festoons; others make the decorations and the crib in the church with excellent taste, following more or less what they have seen done by the good Sisters at Holy Cross Mission; scrubbing, dusting...work for everybody and everybody is happy. Of course, confessions all day. A little before midnight the Martyrology of the day, with the narration of the Birth of Our Savior is sung solemnly by all, and when at the words: "Jesus Christ is born...etc." the Infant Jesus is unveiled and all fall on their knees to adore Him, and the Priest incense it, it is just like Bethlehem, on that blessed night and not all the eyes are dry. With a profusion of lights, decorations, singing, prayers, the two Masses are over very quickly; some shooting, a great shaking of hands, and "Happy Christmas" a lunch... put the finishing to their joy. A third Mass later on and Benediction in the evening call them yet to the new-born Savior. Santa in Alaskan attire pays a visit, dancing admirably to the immense delight of the children, and distributes whatever was sent by Benefactors. All day long is an exchanging of vists among themselves, with little presents and tea and akutak, the Alaskan ice cream, made of frozen black berries, seal oil, and snow. So you see, though not so refined, still our Eskimos' Christmas is really beautiful spiritually and temporally. But I abuse your patience. Be sure that you will be remembered in my Masses and in our prayers, as we always pray for the Benefactors. God bless you and your intentions. Continue, please, your help both in prayers and material assistance. Wishing you a very happy Easter, I am yours in the S. H.

(Signed) John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

Copied by CW

Copy for: Bureau  
" " Miss.  
" " I. S.  
" " M. E.

*right to down 4/18/30 CW*

Miss Margaret Nolan,  
Conn.

My dear Miss Nolan:

I was surprised and delighted to receive your generous donation of \$25 through the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, because I may see that you are well and always the faithful friend of our mission in general and poor myself in particular. God bless you and reward your great charity. I do appreciate it very much, because I know that you are not rich and that what you send is the outcoming of your economy and sacrifices for us. I am sure before God's eyes your \$25 are valued much more than the many millions given away by those big millionaires, as Carnegie etc. Certainly our good Lord inspired you to pay my bills of expenses for running the school, paying and supporting the teachers and family, etc. etc. Life is very expensive in Alaska, and if our good Benefactors, like you, would close their purses, only a miracle of Divine Providence could make us continue our work. And God seems well pleased with their charity and to bless it in blessing our work. In fact, considering the very thin sparsed population, the immense difficulties and hardships for evangelizing these poor Eskimos and Indians, we may be well satisfied at the progress made every year.

Our missionaries are admirable in their zeal and self-sacrifice; all alone, in the most desolate, awful places, among primitive rough Eskimos, without human consolation and with very little comfort, if any at all, are full of courage, confidence in God and working hard at the conversion of souls with very good success. God be praised. Rejoice yourself too, dear Miss Nolan, that by your prayers and generous material help you are cooperating with us, doing the very same noble, yea divine work for the glory of God and the salvation of souls, only in heaven you will see the good you so did accomplish. We pray for you and your intentions. I hope you don't inconvenience too much yourself to help us. I missed your writing this time, but you did very well to take advantage of the Indian Missions Bureau, because as we go around so much, and so often change place or district, the surest and quickest way to reach us is the Bureau, that is always informed of our whereabouts, and in contact by correspondence with every one of us. It is our providence, under God.

Wishing you a very joyous and holy Easter, I am yours truly in the S. H.

(Signed) John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

COPIED BY CW

Copy for: Bureau  
" " Miss.  
" " I. S.  
" " M. E.

Holy Cross, Alaska.  
February 26, 1930.

40-1

*Original done 4/18/30 CW*

Miss Margaret Nolan,  
Conn.

My dear Miss Nolan:

I was surprised and delighted to receive your generous donation of \$25 through the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, because I may see that you are well and always the faithful friend of our mission in general and poor myself in particular. God bless you and reward your great charity. I do appreciate it very much, because I know that you are not rich and that what you send is the outcoming of your economy and sacrifices for us. I am sure before God's eyes your \$25 are valued much more than the many millions given away by those big millionaires, as Carnegie etc. Certainly our good Lord inspired you to pay my bills of expenses for running the school, paying and supporting the teachers and family, etc. etc. Life is very expensive in Alaska, and if our good Benefactors, like you, would close their purses, only a miracle of Divine Providence could make us continue our work. And God seems well pleased with their charity and to bless it in blessing our work. In fact, considering the very thin sparsed population, the immense difficulties and hardships for evangelizing these poor Eskimos and Indians, we may be well satisfied at the progress made every year.

Our missionaries are admirable in their zeal and self-sacrifice; all alone, in the most desolate, awful places, among primitive rough Eskimos, without human consolation and with very little comfort, if any at all, are full of courage, confidence in God and working hard at the conversion of souls with very good success. God be praised. Rejoice yourself too, dear Miss Nolan, that by your prayers and generous material help you are cooperating with us, doing the very same noble, yea divine work for the glory of God and the salvation of souls, only in heaven you will see the good you so did accomplish. We pray for you and your intentions. I hope you don't inconvenience too much yourself to help us. I missed your writing this time, but you did very well to take advantage of the Indian Missions Bureau, because as we go around so much, and so often change place or district, the surest and quickest way to reach us is the Bureau, that is always informed of our whereabouts, and in contact by correspondence with every one of us. It is our providence, under God.

Wishing you a very joyous and holy Easter, I am yours truly in the S. H.

(Signed) John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

COPIED BY CW

COPY FOR *Bureau*

Holy Cross, Alaska.  
March 14, 1930

40-1

Mrs. Sophia Reed,  
414 W. 49th St.,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Reed:

The boys' and girls' caps you sent were duly and gratefully received and are proving an asset, indeed. The winter weather is lending itself magnificently to sports of all kinds: our boys are having the time of their lives skating in front of our Mission grounds where a strip of the Yukon is a clear sheet of ice. This was never seen before as the ice generally flows down from the upper sloughs, creeks and tributaries until the big, rugged pieces jam finally, filling up all space of running water. But this year there was an open stretch of some eight miles, which froze into smooth ice. You may imagine the grand skating that is going on.

May our sweet Lord, Himself, reward your charity, dear Mrs. Reed, and fill you and yours with His precious love.

Gratefully in Christ,

P.I. Delon, S.J.

COPIED BY MP

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C. November 23, 1929.

Rev. E. J. Cunningham, S.J.  
Piaute,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
Rev. Father Cunningham:

Rec'd JUN 30 1930 Amt. \_\_\_\_\_ Ob.  
Ass. \_\_\_\_\_ Est. \_\_\_\_\_ Co.  
Pd'd \_\_\_\_\_ Masses \_\_\_\_\_ Dr.  
Letter to \_\_\_\_\_ C. O.  
I enclose herewith a check for \$5.00 covering  
the gift of Miss Helen J. Murray, Holy Cross, Alaska, and which she  
designated for you. Copy to S. J. \_\_\_\_\_  
D. G. or Ref. \_\_\_\_\_  
Copy to \_\_\_\_\_

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ.

*Wm. Hughes*  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

Received the check named above on March 15 1930

(Signed)

*Rev. E. J. Cunningham S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)



COPY FOR Bureau

11 " MAY 7. 8.  
orig sent down 5/6/20 MRS.

Holy Cross, Alaska.  
March 15, 1920

Mrs. M. A. Holt,  
Bufile, N. Y.  
Rev. Mgr. Hughes,

My dear Mrs. Holt:

The Rt. Rev. Mgr. Hughes, of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, has sent me your gift of \$1,000 dollars for the erection of a chapel among the Eskimos.

The chapel will be built this coming summer at "Marshall" two hundred miles from the Bering Sea, and, according to your wishes, in honor of the Blessed Sacrament, the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and to the memory of Dr. C. A. Holt.

I wish to thank you most heartily, dear Mrs. Holt, for your generous gift, and I trust the new chapel, which will be a source of much good to the Natives, will also draw down innumerable blessings for yourself. The Chapel will be named according to your wish and if a photograph can be secured I will send it to you.

Along the Bering coast, the Eskimo people are ~~scattered~~ scattered far and wide a few villages may hold a couple of hundred people, but as a general rule, they have very small communities, often only two or three families. They are so very poor and their food supplies so uncertain, that whenever the game takes a notion to migrate, there is nothing left for them to do but pick up their few belongings and ~~follow~~ follow. Their habitations are called "Igloos" and are built of sods supported with willows. On account of the fact that no trees of any kind grow on the barren tundras of these northern coasts, the people have no wood for fuel; unless they are lucky enough to find some drift-wood on the sea shore in summer, so that, practically the only means they have to keep themselves warm in the biting cold of this northern country, is a little home-made oil lamp, in which they burn Sea oil; to help counteract this lack of fuel they build their Igloos partly underground. In these cold and often very dirty habitations, the wandering Missionary is glad to offer up the Holy Sacrifice.

In spite of their extreme poverty, they are a simple, docile and fun loving people, and respond readily to the Missionaries efforts. Our chief aim is to establish a chapel in the larger villages, and from there visit small ones. On account of the number of places to be visited, the Missionary can only stay a few days in each place, during which time the catechism and prayers are taught, the sick attended, and the Sacraments administered to those who may already have become Catholics.

To give you some idea as to what can be done for these people. In the Summer of 1927 we started a new mission down at Kashunuk near the Bering Sea. Up to that time these people had never been admitted to the Sacraments; to day after a little more than two years spent among them, the Father in charge tells me that the whole village of over 120 souls, assist at daily Mass, and a great number of them are daily Communicants, he also states, that he would not be ashamed to put them alongside any white congregation in the States for piety.

For a number of years the people of Kotzebue, on the shores of the Arctic Ocean have been begging us to start a Mission among them; up till now, lack of Priests, and funds have prevented us from acceding to their request.



Holy Cross, Aea 40-1

3-17-30

Msgr Mm Hughes

2021 N. St. N.W.

Washington, D.C.

My dear Monsignor:

This letter is in answer to one of my recent date from Mrs Margraff. - The good lady is unknown to me. Hence I conclude she must have learned of me through your paper or by a personal letter of your never-let-up Kindness. -

As the address is complete, you will have no difficulty in forwarding my acknowledgment to her, with another kind word of appreciation from you.

With best wishes for a Blessed  
and Joyous Easter to yourself,  
as well as to your devoted, admirably  
staff. I remain

Respectfully & gratefully in our debt.

P. J. Delaney

COPY FOR: Bureau  
" " I.S.  
" " M. E.

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
March 18, 1930.

40-1

Mrs. R. Ringrose;  
50 Golden Gate Ave.  
San Francisco, Calif.

My dear Mrs. Ringrose:

Some time last summer I received from you a parcel of clothing and other useful articles. I was away at the time the package arrived.

I wish to thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness, and I can assure you dear Madam, that your gift was most welcome, as we have a family of 165 children to take care of, and we have to depend entirely upon our benefactors to both clothe and feed them.

Asking the Dear Lord to repay you with His choicest blessings, and promising you a share in our Holy Sacrifices, and in the prayers of our children, I am

Gratefully yours in Christ,

(Signed) P. I. Delon, S.J.  
Superior of the Juit Missions in  
Alaska.

Copied by CW



Pimite, Holy Cross, Alaska  
March 18, 1930.

My dear children and missionaries:

You are as good as gold, and I can not tell you how pleased and happy I was and I am in receiving a few days ago your generous contribution again. Of course, the money is very welcome and to tell you the truth it went by the same carrier further down the Yukon to one of my confreres who is also living alone and is isolated among the Eskimo and was taken sick and brought up on the dog sled to a town, where he could be better attended by the white people living there, who, though not of our faith, are very friendly and kind to us. I was afraid that he might be in need and so I sent to him your check. But he is the soul of kindness and generosity and he will surely send it back if he does not need it now, or make up for it as soon as he can even if I don't want.

Well, I wanted to say that I am very happy even more than for the money in knowing you to be constant and unshaken not only but more than ever fervent and active in your missionary spirit, helping us with all your might. This is shown not only by the money, which is telling its own story of sacrifices, self-conquests etc., but especially by the very rich spiritual bouquet or treasury that you have made for the missions. It is spiritual money of the highest value, and God only knows how many souls will be bought or helped by it. You are real missionaries and very helpful cooperators of us. God bless you and your devoted teacher, Sister Benita, asks me to bless you, every one and all, and gave me your names. I think that you deserve indeed a good blessing, and in order to be sure that it is a genuine good blessing not spoiled or hampered by the miseries and sinfulness of Fr. Macchessi, I will tomorrow morning, feast of St. Joseph, the especial patron of your Sisters, bring to the altar the letters with all your names and good Father Cross and teacher's names written in it, and put it under the corporal during my Mass, so to say, under the very feet of Our Lord, begging Him, when coming at the consecration, to bless you and through His loved Father St. Joseph's intercession to grant you and your families showers of graces for time and eternity and (well, I tell you this in your ear, only for yourselves) that eventually some of you, as many as possible, may hear His sweet voice calling you to follow Him and to help Him to gather in the precious souls, He bought by His precious Blood every drop of it. Any one, boy or girl, can help and follow him. True, He says "take up they cross every day and follow me" but He says also "My yoke is sweet, my burden light" and it is true. He covers the cross with so much sugar and honey, and He shares so generously in our yoke and burden that we wonder if He or ourselves carry the cross and pull under the yoke. This is my experience of 33 years. The experience of the other Fathers, Brothers and Sisters too, who not at all afraid or tired of living in this dreary country of darkness, storms, intense cold and dangers, are only afraid of being called away by the Superiors, and if sickness obliges them to go to milder climates they are anxious and ever eager to come back. Often not even waiting to recover enough. Such was the case of two of our best missionaries last year. Both paid their life for their eagerness to come back to work again and suffer for Him. They must be very happy in heaven now. But there is no lack of consolations even in Alaska. For us old pioneers, is surely a great consolation to see the wonderful prayers made and going on yet. How many poor Eskimos and Indians know now and love God. Instead of foolish, pagan superstitions, you see them now flocking to the church, approach the Sacraments and devoutly pray and sing beautifully. Let me relate you only one instance. It awoke in my mind a few days ago visiting the grave yard. We had very hard times when we first came to break the many superstitions accompanying the burial of the dead. They were afraid of the grave. Nobody for many days could use axe, hammer or anything made of iron. Therefore no gravedigging. The bodies were either put in boxes, very rough boxes not nailed, but tied with native reposes, or wrapped in several grass mats and placed on top of the ground anywhere. Many things were placed with the body, or around the graves necessary for their use in the other world, or hunting ground. Needles



scissors, cloth for the women. Guns, arrows, blades, snowshoes, spears, teapots, and other cooking utensils, cups, dishes etc., any kind of things which however were saved and nobody would dare to touch them. It would be too long to enumerate even in small part such superstitions. During my first winter at Holy Cross, a babe died across the Yukon on the other village, and my Superior sent me to see and dispose for the burial, as it was baptized by us and was supposed to have a right to a Christian burial. I went entered the igloo, but no body to be seen. "Buried already" said the father, a pagan. "Where then did you bury it?" After vainly trying to evade further questions he led me pretty far away in the thick forest. "There it is" he said pointing to something high up on a very tall tree. That was the babe, very well wrapped to protect it from the many white owls. Well, I must confess I was surprised and taken aback. What wonderful spectacle all around. The deep silence. The white sheet of deep snow covering everything. The very high trees, among whose branches Jack Frost had wrought marvels of designs, domes, things like little shrines, bands of perfectly candid pastigians, silent too and silently flying from tree to tree, from branch to branch, as afraid of intruding in that solemn stillness. I gave green bridle to my reverie and I was telling to myself how much I would like that my dead body also would be placed on a high tree. "Nearer, my God, to Thee," instead of in that awful hole underground with your friends throwing dirt upon it, as they would be afraid that you have a chance yet of coming out and there on the beautiful tree, between earth and heaven to wait for the coming of the angel of resurrection. How easy then to answer his summons and follow him to Josephat, and - but some noise from my man getting impatient awoke me from my reveries. He was staring at me and waiting for an answer, evidently with some anxiety. In my enthusiasm, mastering the very little knowledge of the language I possessed "Neji, ketotia neji" (Good, very good) Alas! a look of wondering surprise on his face called me back to my senses, and I remembered and understood that pagan superstition was once more blocking my way. If a dead body, they believed, is brought across the river on the ice, all the fishes beneath will run away or die and then they will starve. What to do? To insist and bring down the dead babe and across to the graveyard would have been too shocking for the people and very likely hindering their conversion. I decided to accept the defeat and be better on my guard for the future. The occasion did not tarry much. An old man died across, Catholic and with all the sacraments. Taking our strongest Brother along, our large boys, sled and dogs we went at once to the village across to take the body to our graveyard. The shaman came out pleading and threatening that we ourselves should never catch any more fish in our traps under the ice, if that corpse would cross on the ice, and the people too were scared and reluctant. Without any further parleying the Brother and the boys took the dead man and not minding the medicine man and the people, brought it to the church and then to the graveyard. Next day our Brother went to visit the trap under the ice and found in it over 350 beautiful excellent fishes. He was so happy, that in coming back he rushed to me and "Father," he said "I am becoming very proud." "How it is?" I asked. "Well, you know, St. Peter caught only 150 fishes and I ..." "What, I shouted to him, 150 fishes were enough for humble St. Peter and send him on his knees, and 350 are not enough for you." I never finished my lecture, because the good Brother ran away, and I am sure he went to imitate St. Peter falling on his knees in the chapel before his Master. The natives too went to visit their traps and found plenty. It was a full victory on superstition and on the medicine men. From that time we never had the least trouble in burying with our Catholic rites the dead. Now when I remind them of their old superstitions they heartily laugh.

I must finish my too long letter, dear children. Continue to help spiritually and temporally the missions in general and Alaska in particular and every day thank God that you are so well trained and educated. Hoping to hear from you again, I am

Yours truly in the Sacred Heart,

(Signed) Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.V.

Holy Cross Mission, Alaska.  
March 19, 1930.

Dear Sister Bonita:

Many thanks for your very kind note and for the more appreciated prayers. It must be a great consolation for you and for the other Sisters teachers to have such well corresponding pupils. I wrote a letter to them, herein enclosed, but it was written in a hurry and with my Eskimo kids running around my table. Kindly excuse the many blunders slipped in it. Please, give my best regards to Father Cross, as I have now to go to give benediction and the milk is starting. God and good St. Joseph may bless you and all your companions. Begging the charity of your prayers and wishing you a very joyous Easter, I am

Yours truly,

(Signed) Rev. John Lemsch, S.I.,

Copied by:MF

Archives and Institutional Repository - Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions



COPY FOR: Bureau  
" " I.S.  
" " M. E.

Holy Cross, Alaska.  
March 19, 1930.

40-1

Mrs. Ruth M. Martin,  
4265 Suter St.  
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Martin:

The shipment you sent through the Bureau of Catholic Missions to my address was duly received and I thank you very much. All that charity will find a great reward at the hands of no less than our Almighty God. That is saying you are not the loser, dear Madam.

I shall myself in return for your kind thought of our needs beg our Lord to materialize your just desires and grant you His love and His consolations.

Our mission at Hooper Bay, so seriously endangered last year on account of trouble-some proselytizing is finally victorious, and as many as fifteen daily communicants are found where two years ago there was not even a church. But we still need help in every line. May I further appeal to your generosity and that of your friends with regard to an unsurpassed collection of pictures, published in France and called "Catechism in Pictures." The set consists of seventy large chromo lithographs, admirably fitted to give a thorough and comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the mysteries of our faith. They are an invaluable aid in teaching rude, simple, uncultured minds. Their cost, mounted on cloth, is about \$30.00 including the transportation. Any little amount towards the purchase of these pictures will greatly be appreciated.

I thank you anew, dear Mrs. Martin, and recommend all our intentions to your good prayers.

Gratefully and sincerely.

(Signed). P. I. DeJon, S.J.

Copied by CW

COPY FOR: Bureau  
" " I. S.  
" " M. E.

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
March 19, 1930;

Mr. Kenneth Smiley,  
3949 10th Ave., S.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

c/o Msgr. W. Hughes,  
of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions.

Dear Mr. Smiley:

Last summer I received notice from Msgr. Hughes, that you were sending me a shipment of something or other for our mission.

My work of visiting the different Missions kept me away from Holy Cross most of the summer. During my absence, a number of gifts from various benefactors were received, but some of the records of the donations are missing, yours among the number.

Everything we receive from our friends, proves most useful in a mission like this, where we clothe and feed 165 children without any other help than that the Good Lord sends us through our friends; so I feel safe in thanking you for your generosity and I pray that the Dear Lord will amply repay you.

Assuring you of a share in the prayers of our children, and of our Holy Sacrifices, I am

Gratefully yours in Christ,

(Signed) P. I. Delon, S.J.  
Superior of the Jesuit Mission  
in Alaska.

COPIED BY CW

Copy for Bulletin

*Orig. to Denver*  
JUN 30 1930

Holy Cross, Alaska.  
March 21, 1930.

40-1

Miss Rose Arata,  
Atlantic City, N. J.

Dear Miss Arata:

Your frequent practical expressions of interest in our northern missions have been a source of encouragement and have repeatedly caused feelings of deep gratitude in my heart as I was using or dispensing one or the other of the many useful articles you so lovingly gathered and packed up for me. That your charity has been a cause of gratification to the Sacred Heart, I have no doubt and He must smile very sweetly upon your work. I thank you much for your last shipment. All you sent, neckties, aprons, the warm coat, and other clothes found a welcome awaiting them. But, best of all, is the beautiful silver-embroidered lace, which our Sister-sacristan daintily drapes as a background for the Ostensor for Benediction. For this and for your many other favors, Our Lord must shower upon you particular graces.

The last month was spent by me "on the trail." Like every missionary, I was after souls and the only way I had to go in search of them was a team of dogs and a sled. Cold was the weather, indeed. The thermometer descended as low as 50 Fahrenheit and it hovered between 35 and 20 the greater part of the time. But it was consoling and deeply comforting for me to get some results. It was all God's grace, for I could not otherwise explain the readiness with which souls were willing to draw near to their God. I had the happiness to give first holy Communion to fourteen different people all Eskimos, who had been preparing since my former visit among them. I received several into the church, administered Confirmation to a number of them, and left all filled with the eager desire of remaining true to their Faith. May I ask you to unite your prayers to ours for the success of the new missions I have opened on the Arctic Coast and for those which should be established if we are to spread Christ's Kingdom over all the earth?

With the assurance of a fervent memento in the holy sacrifice in gratitude for your charity, I remain

Gratefully and sincerely

(Signed) P. I. Delon, S.J.,

Copied byMF

March 21, 1930. 40-1

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S. J.,  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

Enclosed please find check for \$250, the result of an appeal  
about Christmas time for your needs, especially chapel.

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director.

WH/MCS

HOLY CROSS MISSION  
HOLY CROSS, ALASKA

4-11-30

Rt. Rev. magn. Wm. Hughes,

Dear Monsignor:

To my consternation, on returning from another trip by dog team, as I had finally settled down to clear up some of my accumulated correspondence, I discovered the present enclosed letter of mine, regarding the gift of <sup>the chautauque</sup> Mrs. Theresa Kulage. - It was in one of your self-addressed envelopes, sealed & ready for the mail. - I cannot account for this neglect, but it is very regrettable indeed. - In one of the last mails, I received your letter, asking me to answer your letter of Sept. 20. But, as



I knew (I thought) that I had done  
so, I did not worry, for I had a  
carbon copy of this letter somewhere.  
— Now, here I find the original.  
Too bad! — Mea culpa!

Has your "Monsignorship" an appointed  
canonical "penance" for that? I guess  
it's coming to me, with 10% penalty.

Yours most gratefully in X<sup>to</sup>:

J. J. Nelson, S.J.

Copy for Bureau  
" " Fr. Delon  
Orig. of this letter sent Mrs. Kulage 5/14/30 MB.

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
April 4, 1930

Rt. Rev. Mgr. William Hughes.

Dear Monsignor:

To my consternation, on returning from another trip by dog team, as I had finally settled down to clear up some of my accumulated correspondence, I discovered the present enclosed letter of mine regarding the gift of the charitable Mrs. Theresa Kulage. It was in one of your self-addressed envelopes, sealed and ready for the mail. I can not account for this neglect, but it is very regrettable, indeed.

In one of the last mails, I received your letter, asking me to answer your letter of September 20. But, as I knew (I thought) that I had done so, I did not worry, for I had a carbon copy of this letter somewhere. Now, here I find the original. Too bad! *Mea culpa!*

Yours most gratefully in Xto.

(Signed)

P. I. Delon, S.J.

Copied by MB.

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.,  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$1,000 covering  
the gift of Mrs. M. A. Holt, Buffalo, New York, which was  
designated for chapel.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor; already received.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

WM:MB.

I enclose copy of my letter to Mrs. Holt. I think it will save  
offending her. I know that you will not be offended. She may even see her way  
to do as you suggest. If so, then everybody will be happy.

(Signed) *P. J. Delon, S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

Rt. Rev. Mgr. Wm. Hughes,  
2021 H Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Holy Cross, Alaska.

May 8 1930  
Rec'd JUN 17 1930 Amt. \$250.00  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_ Ent. \_\_\_\_\_ Cr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Fol'd \_\_\_\_\_ Mssns. \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Letter to \_\_\_\_\_ P. 3  
Order filled \_\_\_\_\_ Work Slip O.K. \_\_\_\_\_ P. 2  
Ship't \_\_\_\_\_ List \_\_\_\_\_ P. 2  
Copy to L.S. \_\_\_\_\_ P. 2 or Ref. \_\_\_\_\_  
Copy to \_\_\_\_\_ Check sent \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Monsignor Hughes:

Please accept my sincere thanks for the \$250. check of March 21, which reached me in the last mail of the winter season.

The same mail that brought me your nice check, also brought me a letter from the Procurator of the Alaska Missions, Fr. Sauer of Spokane. It was a relief for me to open your letter after I had perused his.

Permit me to quote a few lines of his letter: "Our position this year is desperate. Our borrowing credit is such that we can borrow no more. . . . Hope you can make a successful appeal otherwise I do not know how we can buy this year".

That sounds discouraging indeed, especially as we have only the next three months within which to secure our necessary supplies for the coming year. Meanwhile the needs of our Mission continue none the less pressing, and our helplessness is the more distressing when we turn to our more than 300 Eskimo and Indian children whom we have in our boarding schools, and have to figure on housing, feeding, clothing, and educating, without the prospect which we might have in more favored climes, of ever being self-supporting.

The entire personnel of the Alaska Mission including the children in our boarding schools, the Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, as well as several scattered Catechists in outlying stations, number 300 or more. Even at the low cost of \$12. per month that means an expenditure of over \$50,000. per year.

We do not indeed spend that, nor even near that amount for our personal maintenance; but the material upkeep of our thirty Missions, scattered over a territory of some 200,000 square miles, and the continual founding of new stations, to which we are literally forced by the aggressiveness of the sectarians, places us in a position, which, from a human point of view, is well nigh disheartening.

The Government has also added to our problems by erecting industrial boarding schools at several important centers. Everything is done to attract children to these schools; and as the transportation is furnished gratis, parents are easily induced to give in to these importunities.

As a result, Catholic children that should be with us in our own boarding schools, are every year carried off to these neutral - that is Godless - schools, in which there is only a remote chance of their ever seeing a catholic priest. Thus these children, deprived of all positive religious instruction for years, cannot but be lost to the Church.

Nor is it neglect on our part. For some of these schools have been erected in districts so far remote from our catholic missions, that none of the priests can visit them, unless at the cost of considerable time and money; and as the territories or districts are already so extensive, none can find the opportunity to reach out beyond their limits. Money and men, there only lies the solution of our Alaska Mission problems.

The men, our Superiors are doing their very best to supply. But the money . . . ? Well dear Monsignor, in a very great measure, it is to you that we look for it. I know for a certainty that we could not carry on our missionary work as we do, were it not for the valuable contributions you so kindly secure for us from the generous benefactors that read your interesting magazine.]

Will you permit me, dear Monsignor, to thank you in true Alaskan fashion? Well then, remember that, among the Eskimos and the Indians of Alaska, potlatching is in honor. Invitations are sent to neighboring villages to come and see the wealth (this is only a relative term) of the inviting village; they are to receive gifts, always however in exchange for other gifts which the visitors themselves are expected to bring along.

Now, dear Monsignor, you have been potlatching in our behalf these many years. But it was all one-sided. Let me now, in true Eskimo fashion, invite you to come and see us and our wealth! Bring nothing for you have already given a lot; you have done more than your share. But come and see our country and our Missions. Perhaps you have never seen anything like it.

Of course, you must come in summer. For if you come in winter, you might keep us busy attending to frozen cheeks and nose, or frozen hands and toes. We would, it is true, do all that in good expert fashion. But we would rather not see you thus afflicted. So then, please, come in summer. You will need no special equipment: only a few barrels of patience and a bolt or two of strong mosquito netting. The stock of patience will serve to bear with equanimity a delay of from one to three weeks in the schedule of boat connections owing to storms, winds, or change of mind in the person operating the boat. The netting will be to insure your returning home with every drop of blood that you brought along, and without the additional bumps that friendly encounters with those ubiquitous pests ordinarily bring along. We shall welcome you with open arms wherever you will permit us to take you. Nowhere will you meet an unfriendly look or hear an unfriendly word. You will be the honored guest in every place. May we hope to have you this year?

Trusting you may see fit to accept this hearty invitation, and wishing the choicest blessings of the Sacred Heart upon you and your work, I am, dear Monsignor,

Very respectfully and gratefully in Our Lord:

*P. J. Delon, S.J.*



May 13, 1930

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.,  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

I have your two letters of November 14, 1929 and April 4, 1930.

For your penance, build the chapel and name it Our Lady of Perpetual Help. I hope you get some olivers in your hands.

I enclose Bureau check for \$1,000.

I also enclose copies of the two letters which you wrote me. I have taken the liberty of editing them as you would have written them if you had intended them for this good woman to read.

When the chapel is completed, please send me two pictures of it, one for THE INDIAN SENTINEL and one for the donor, Mrs. Theresa Kulage of Missouri.

I will try to secure for you through THE INDIAN SENTINEL a donor for the Takchak chapel.

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

WH:MB.

Upon receipt of Bureau check, please send a letter of thanks through this Bureau for transmittal by me to Mrs. Kulage.

COPY FOR Bureau

" H. L. S.

" m. E.

Aug " border 7/12/30 mi

40-1

Holy Cross Mission,  
Pisuto, Holy Cross, Alaska.  
May 15, 1930.

Miss Margaret E. McLaughlin,

Dear Miss McLaughlin:

Don't wonder, please, if you did not receive yet an acknowledgment of your very kind alma of \$10 for the celebration of ten Masses for the souls of your regretted dear mother, Mrs. Hannah McLaughlin. It was impossible for me to send it for during the long period of the breaking of the ice the mail service is suspended and so for several months we are almost separate from the civilized world, except by telegraph, a station of which is at Holy Cross, fifty miles above here by the Yukon River. Be sure however, that our gratitude does not follow the slow Alaskan mail, nor is chilled by the cold, snow and ice that even now surrounds us. Not at all. But we send our heartfelt thanks by the divine wireless of prayer and by a messenger, who communicates to them something, if not all, of His infinite, most acceptable thanksgiving, viz. Our dear Savior in the holy Sacrifice of the Mass. God bless you for your charity, which, I assure you, is very welcome and helpful.

We, and our Eskimo, had a pretty hard time this past winter. The resources of Alaska instead of increasing, are diminishing more and more, commerce, tourists, gold mines, game, fur-bearing animals, fowls, before so plentiful, etc. etc. So especially the natives have a very hard time to make ends meet, and very often can not. Many are deep in debt with the few traders who supply the many things Alaska can not supply or produce, flour, tea, clothes, lard etc. etc. But we must pray and trust God that He will not forget us and especially His wee ones, and, as a matter of fact, He does not. He is really wonderful in His loving, fatherly Providence.

At Holy Cross Mission, where we educate and support 170 children, mostly orphans, there was also this past winter not a little worry how to feed them because many barrels of excellent red King Salmon, which was caught and salted by us last summer, got spoiled and could not be used, and a great number of our reindeer, because of the negligence of the border, ran away and could not be found, so cutting down yet more our supplies and depriving the children of their exquisite meats. But all prayed fervently and somewhat like St. Peter, we "cast our net", or more exactly we set our large fish traps under the ice in the river and we never before caught so many as this year, large, excellent, delicate fish, which we ate in plenty and of which we made a large supply, drying, salting or canning them, and, so, thanks be to God, our children are very healthy, strong and well fed. Sure God is our loving Father in heaven, but ever mindful of His children on earth.

I do hope that your good mother is now in heaven, too, praying and smiling to her worthy daughter and to us too, whom you help materially, and, I am sure, even more spiritually by your good prayers.

Yours very thankfully,

(Signed)

John L. Lucchesi, S.J.,

COPIED BY MC

M. J. A.

40-1

RECORDED JUN 30 1930  
 Ans. 200 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100  
 Pol'd 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100  
 Letter to 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100  
 Order filled 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100  
 Ship't 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100  
 Copy to 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100  
 Copy to 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100  
 Copy to 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

Dear Monignor:

We have just received two boxes from the Cornelia Connelly Association. As previous donations from them came to us through the Bureau, we are forwarding you our acknowledg-ment.

With our sincere thanks,  
 we remain Respectfully,  
 The Sisters of St. Ann.

HOLY CROSS MISSION

HOLY CROSS, ALASKA

Rec'd JUN 20 1930

June 11-1930

Rev. Dear Monseigneur,

S. G. - Rev. Fr. Delon fled away again and left me his shoes during his absence, too big no doubt for my old feet. - The check you send him of \$1000. for the Chapel of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, came in yesterday; I am writing about it to Fr. Delon, who will thank the generous benefactress, Mrs. Theresa Kulaga. In summer our mail is much better... ~~there~~ once a week! - I hope he will come back quickly and let me go back to my hermitage.... I received all you sent for helping us in our correspondence, but, to be candid, I have no time at all to examine better, and give only a hurried look. I hope to get a little more leisure as soon as our goods are stored away and the many intricate business of Holy

Kindly cross straighten up. - I received several parcels by this mail, but I must wait for the next boat to acknowledge them; impossible now. -

Please, kindly excuse my hurry. -

Sad then you a 1000 times -

Yours in x

J. Luachesi S. J.



COPY FOR *Bureau*  
*Orig. to donor*  
JUL 14 1930 *JR*

ENCLOSURE 40-1  
Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
June 11, 1930

Dear Miss Moerchen:

Your donation of April 24, 1930 came few days ago and I thank you very much for it. I was just in need of some good hose, still not so heavy, as we use in winter, and I found them in your box. The picture are lovely and even more appreciated because evidently are coming from your skilful hands, moved by your good missionary heart. I keep them in reserve till our school in my Mission of Pimute begins in September. They will be a powerful mean to our pupils to study hard and beat the others. Every one or two weeks the teacher reads in public their notes and sends the best ones to me to get a little reward. There is never any hesitation their choice among several objects, even little toys, infallibly falls on pious articles. They are fond of crucifix, beads, pictures, little statues etc. You did very well to use mica instead of glass. In that way they reach us in perfect condition, while the others almost without exception comes broken and spoiled.

I will not fail to pray for you. Please continue to our Esquimaux the charity of your temporal help, and that even more appreciated of your good prayers. God bless you,

Your thankfully in the S. H.

COPIED BY SP

(SIGNED) John L. Luchessi, S. J.

Saint Ignatius College

2130 Fulton Street  
San Francisco, Calif.

Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions

Major Wm Hughes.  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Monsignor

In a rush, called out of Alaska for some business, I come to you for a little "politics". —

During my trip, I have learned that "they" are after the scalp of the present District Judge of the Fourth Division in Alaska, Hon. Cecil H. Clegg. — He was in line for re-appointment, but has not yet been reappointed. —

If we, the missionaries of Alaska, were asked our opinion, we would certainly favor his re-appointment. — Judge Clegg plays no favorites. — He has met with

as general approval in his decisions as any Judge  
can be expected to get. He is painstaking & thorough,  
& strong in his defence of the rights of individuals.  
In other words, integrity and efficiency mark him  
out as the fittest candidate for the office. — I do not  
know, I have not even an inkling, of who are the other  
aspirants to the office. — Hence my recommendation is  
thoroughly disinterested, & based solely on the merits  
of the present incumbent. His headquarters are at Fairbairn.

May I request or suggest that a word from  
you (do not ask Sutherland, for I do not know his attitude)  
addressed personally, by a personal call on Attorney  
General Wm D. Mitchell, might swing the balance & bring  
about a decision in his favor. —

Archives and Institutional Repository - Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions

  
Saint Ignatius College  
2130 Fulton Street  
San Francisco, Calif.

Judge Clegg, though an Episcopalian, and  
therefore in no way connected with us, is fully  
deserving of our support —

Please, rush this, as the appointment is  
now overdue. — Thank you, in the name of all!

Very respectfully:

C. E. Delong



TYPESCRIPT OF PRECEDING DOCUMENT

Copy For BUREAU

San Francisco, Calif.  
June 16, 1930.

Re. Rev. Magr. Wm. Hughes,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Monsignor:

In a rush, called out of Alaska for some business, I come to you for a little "politics".

During my trip, I have learned that "they" are after the scalp of the present District Judge of the Fourth Division in Alaska, Hon. Cecil H. Clegg. He was in line for re-appointment but has not yet been reappointed.

If we, the missionaries of Alaska, were asked our opinion we would certainly favor his reappointment. Judge Clegg plays no favorite. He has met with as general approval in his decisions as any Judge can be expected to get. He is painstaking and thorough and strong in his defence of the rights of individuals. In other words, integrity and efficiency mark him out as the fittest candidate for the office. I do not know, I have not even an inkling, of who are the other aspirants to the office. Hence my recommendation is thoroughly disinterested and based solely on the merits of the present incumbent. His headquarters are at Fairbanks.

May I request or suggest that a word from you (do not ask Sutherland, for I do not know his attitude) addressed personally, by a personal call on Attorney General William D. Mitchell, might swing the balance and bring about a decision in his favor.

Judge Clegg, though an Episcopalian, and therefore in no way connected with us is fully deserving of our support.

Please rush this as the appointment is now overdue. Thank you in the name of all.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) P. I. Delon, S.J.,

Copied by:MF

Saint Ignatius College,  
2130 Fulton St.,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.  
June 20, 1930.

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$25  
the gift of Rev. Andrew J. Rinko, Minn.  
designated for Alaskan missions.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ.

*Wm Hughes*  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

MI:CH.

Received the check named above

(Signed) *P. J. Delon SJ*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

40-1  
June 21, 1930.

Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J.,  
2130 Fulton Street,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Father Delon:

I have your letter of June 16, copy of which I enclose.

Before leaving for a visitation of the Northwest missions, Father Hughes has directed me to write you on such matters.

I am sending copy of your letter to Father Hughes at the Cathedral at Sacramento. He will be there on July 26.

Yours very truly,

Eugene J. Welch,  
Secretary.

EW:MW

40-1

July 1, 1930.

Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J.,  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

Your letter of May 8 has come to this Bureau in the absence of Monsignor Hughes who is now in the West.

The contents of your letter is being prepared to be submitted to him for an appeal to be made in the Catholic papers through the Propagation of the Faith offices.

Copy of the appeal will be sent to you in due time if approved for publication by Monsignor Hughes.

Yours in Christ,

SF:MC

BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS.



Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS

2021 H St. N. W., Washington, D. July 1, 1930.

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$25  
the gift of Mrs. A. B. Mullaney, California  
designated for an Alaskan mission.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ.

*Wm. Hughes*

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

MJ:CV

Received the check named above

(Signed)

*Philip Delon S.J. per J. L. Hughes S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Rev. J. L. Lucchesi, S.J.  
Pimute,  
Hely Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Lucchesi:

40-1  
Rec'd AUG 18 1930 Amt July 3, 1930  
Ans. filed Ret. On  
Fol'd \_\_\_\_\_ Mailed Dr  
Letter to \_\_\_\_\_ C. O.  
Order filled \_\_\_\_\_ Work Shs O.K. P.O.  
Ship't \_\_\_\_\_ Laid S.O.

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$20  
the gift of the Alaskan Unit of the TERNWATER Club, Washington, D. C.  
designated for your mission by Miss Elizabeth Corrigan.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes.  
Director

MJ:CE

Received the check named above

(Signed)

*J. L. Lucchesi S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

I will send the letters next week if alive yet—

HOLY CROSS MISSION

HOLY CROSS, ALASKA

July 7-1930

July 83

V. Rev. Dear Monsignore,

40-1

P.S. — I am ashamed or better sorry for being unable to answer by letter these good benefactors and some other yet; but I have not a free moment. Just now a couple to marry in a hurry; an explosive telegram from our Superior (not you!) scattering his subjects as dust to the wind, of course, leaving to me the execution of a given task how to accomplish it. He should wait for the airplane. Well! many thanks and God bless you; as soon as all the changes will be over. I will inform you —  
Tray for yours in X

John Lucchesi S.J.

Copy for Bureau  
Orig. sent Fr. Delon 7/9/30 MB.

July 7, 1930

The Jesuit Missionaries,  
Alaska.

Dear Reverend Fathers:

Enclosed you will please find a check of fifteen dollars, (\$15.00) which we are sending at the request of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, for fifteen Masses, for Special Intentions.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) Francis Roell,  
Diocesan Director.

Enc. 1.  
FR/SMO

Copied by MB.



*Copy for Bureau  
Orig. to doxov  
7/9/30 JR*

HOLY CROSS MISSION  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

40-1

July 14, 1930.

Dear Miss Kempsey:

Your two boxes just arrived and I thank you very much for them, because their contents are excellent both for soul and body. Nice sugar, exquisite tea balls, which are not only exquisite but also very handy; and the warm socks and the comfort giving helmet, knitted with your own skillful hands, and even more with your charitable, ardent heart; and the beautiful, artistic Little Flower's framed picture, that will soon adorn the class room of my mission at Pimute and will inspire, protect and pray for the boys and girls, who will see it, and who already love her dearly. But it would take too much time to go over one by one those beautiful things, though I cannot pass in silence the gift of that anonymous soul, who made and gave such neat, useful and wholesome things for Our Lord directly and for this unworthy minister. Please thank her in my name, and tell her that her name well known to the Master shall not be separated from yours in my Masses and humble prayers. God bless you both, and especially you, dear Miss Kempsey, and reward you with plentiful temporal and spiritual graces.

I must confess that one of my greatest consolations in my old age is to see, as you have evidently proven, how many beautiful generous souls are in the world, so devoted and forgetful of themselves, whose hearts cannot but be the Paradise of the Heart of Jesus, who well does know and love them. Not all the missionaries are on the field at the front, nor all the pure loving souls in the convents. Let the worldly make noise and shine and dazzle the world; but the world will never know what treasures of sublime virtues, of noblest souls are hidden under the bushel of their humility, but before the eyes of God, they are the best and most efficient missionaries, spreading His Kingdom among the souls by their prayers, works and sacrifices. What a beautiful crown is waiting for you in Heaven.

I wish that I could write more but I have no time now, during the absence of the Superior in the States. I must replace him, and there are so many letters to answer or to write, so many and important business to mind, that there is scarcely time to lepp a few hours. Continue to pray for us that we may convert these poor children of the snow. I thank you again, assuring you that your donation will help most efficiently our work in the school and to make our Christmas merrier for our people.

Wishing you every blessing, I am your in Christ,

(Signed) John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

Copied by HC.

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alasburgh, Pa.

40-1  
July 16, 1930.

Dear Father Delon:

Mrs. M. B. Hungerman, Pennsylvania,  
the Alaskan missions.

5 covering

HC.

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

4012018 /

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter  
NM = Night Message  
NL = Night Letter  
LCO = Deferred Cable  
NLT = Cable Night Letter  
WLT = Week-End Letter

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at Venice, Calif

1930 JUL 31 PM 6 45

387 9=PR OAKLAND PIER CALIF 31 624P

RIGHT REV MSGR WILLIAM HUGHES=

PHONE SANTAMONICA 64393 VENICE CALIF=

30 Ave 33

ARRIVING LOSANGELES ON OWL EIGHT FORTY TOMORROW MORNING

FRIDAY=

DELOX.

around 8/1/30,

TELEPHONE NO. 64393  
CABLE ADDRESS TO Self  
NO. 647 P  
BY a TO BE md

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.

0243

COPY FOR Bureau  
*Orig. to donor*  
SEP 10 1930 *DR*

HOLY CROSS MISSION  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

40-1

August 5, 1930.

Dear Miss Good:

Your very rich and useful parcel was received in good time, and I delayed to write, because I was waiting the other parcel you announced in your letter, to arrive, but so far it did not, and I am very sorry, because what it contains is very useful and even necessary. I hope it is not lost in the way; certainly it is not here, because we are running the Post Office ourselves here, and should know. Perhaps it will be well to inquire at your P.O., especially if it was insured. Few days ago I had another funeral, but nevertheless very welcome surprise: the Council of Catholic Women of Pittsburgh sent me a beautiful funeral Pall, made by some members of their Tabernacle Society, but paid by you. How proud my Eskimos will be, when they will see it! Presently they are all scattered along the Yukon for the fishing season.

I am glad too, because, I will not be obliged in the future to use for a funeral pall some of my own bed coverings. Many souls will be thankful and will pray for you, and I guess pretty soon will cover me to my grave also.

As ever, all that you sent in that large parcel is very handy and serviceable. For my part I welcome heartily the little saw, the screw driver, etc. My parishioners will welcome as heartily the clothes and all the other things. God bless you and give you the hundredfold in this world and life eternal. The people are very grateful and pray for their benefactors. Few days ago a poor widow, young yet, an ex-pupil of this school brought me a nice pair of slippers in moose skin "For our Benefactors" she said, and as you are one of them, and not the least, I send them to you thought not very sure that they will fit your foot. If not, send the size fitting you, and I will send an other pair. Do as you think best with these: it would be an act of great charity, if you could dispose of them for \$5 or more because she lost her husband recently and has 7 children; not one yet in age of helping efficiently. Still she is full of confidence in God, one of our best Christians and training her children to be like herself. We took 3 of them in our school, as they had nothing to spare at home. The other day, one pupil was grumbling about something; the youngest of the three, not yet 7, wondered and said to her: "Why! We must do penance, you know" Words from her mamma, I suppose, accompanying the frequent practice at home. In fact the poor widow told me: "We must now do without things, we had when my husband was living, but we get used to it." I gave her and another widow your dry peaches and it was a real treat. The children had never before seen peaches, and found them delicious.

You see, how many people, old and young, your charity makes! You are styled: "One of our Directors" by the Secretary of the Council of C.W., so knowing by experience that you are truly good in name and in deed, I make bold to ask another favor. These very poor people in general and at least 5 young widows in particular are very willing to work, but there is not work for them in Alaska. They try to get enough money to buy some clothes by bead work; but the storekeepers are flooded with every kind of it, and either don't buy or pay so little that it is not enough to pay for the material. The tourists, so numerous in the past, are unknown now in this part of the country; every source of gain is dried up. What great help would be for them to find a market for their work. Slippers, gloves, pillows, baskets, moccasins, Alaska dolls, purses, etc. etc. good to give as presents; with initials if desired, or any other design. Perhaps these good ladies, so charitable, could



raffle some article at their card parties, and share profits etc. You certainly know better than I do. But if too troublesome to you, don't mind; Divine Providence will see to them.

Are you better now? Are you strong and healthy as before? I hope so. This letter was written in 100 different times. Excuse me, please, I hope to be more free next time. Give my best thanks to the Council of Catholic Women and particularly to those Ladies who made the call, and gave the precious furs. Pray for us. Yours

(Signed) John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

P.S. Perhaps I did not express my mind clearly enough in my letter. It is understood that the slippers are for you, as a real, (not Indian present) Only in case that they don't fit you, dispose of them as you want, and send me your size that I may send you another pair. Please, tell the good Miss O'Donnell that presently having all the business on my back, two Fathers to send to the States, Fr. Manager and five Sisters in retreat etc. etc. I have absolutely no time to answer and thank the Council, but I will do so for sure as soon as the General Superior returns leaving me more free. Thanks.

Recd SEP 3 1950 HOLY CROSS MISSION Co.  
Ans. 2/11/52 HOLY CROSS, ALASKA Co.  
Filed 11 August 1950.

Letter to \_\_\_\_\_  
Ort. Reverend, Dear Monsignore,

P&Sd- 1/4  
The steamer is about to... steam away, and

Copy to \_\_\_\_\_  
my mail is far behind... It is simply awful!

I began the enclosed letter this morning early,  
and could not be finished but now, omitting be-  
sides many things. Fr. Fox at last, after a long  
foxhunting with our boat was caught and brought  
here. However as a last salute to Alaska he  
found the way of running down to Akulurak and  
trying to go to shake tail with King salmon  
travelling in a small row boat with a small out  
motor in a fiendish weather!!! He surely must  
have a full legion of Guardian Angels of the  
highest choirs. He is a real saint, and an excel-  
lent Missionary, but a little too daring and  
imprudent. To be candid, 1/2 or more of his  
narrow escapes could have been avoided with  
more prudence. But he is young and the third  
probation will give more maturity of judgment.  
Good Fr. Menager is here too, making his retreat  
while giving also to 5 Sisters trying to spend

See change  
made  
40-1

well the time of ~~the~~  
well the time of waiting for the return of rev.  
Fr. Delon, which will be probably around the 20  
or 21 with the new plane. May God protect them!  
Fr. Post is on his way to Akulurak to assist  
Fr. Sifton; Fr. Balthussen takes his place at  
Pilgrim Springs; Fr. Lafortune is back to Nome  
from <sup>Kotzebue</sup> Kotzebue, but I have not yet letter from  
him. Fr. Mac Elmeel is in Nulato waiting his de-  
finite status. <sup>at Holy Cross</sup> Fr. Lucchesi has a foot up al-  
ready in readiness to fly back to Pimute or ,  
according to his office of many years, to fill  
up some vacant hole... Scholastic in Nulato hel-  
ping building residence  
These are the principal news our good Vice-  
Superior should know . I hope the local Superior  
viz. Vice-Superior of Alaska in Alaska and the  
Vice-Superior in Washington have no cause of  
conflict of envy or..... Well, good by, dear  
Monsignore; as a good Vice-Superior pray for y  
your Mission and that the new plane may be  
a great success A.M.D.G. and greater salvation  
of souls. Yours fraternally in S.C.J.

*John L. Lucchesi*  
John L. Lucchesi S.J.

HOLY CROSS MISSION  
HOLY CROSS, ALASKA

Recd. JUL 18 1930 Amt. On  
At. St. Ignace Manitou  
P.O. St. Ignace Manitou

Wt. St. Ignace Manitou

Dear Monsignore,  
Infinite thanks for your very, very  
kind letter and for the check of  
\$20 from the Tekakmita Club -  
Please, tell good Miss Berrihan  
that I will acknowledge it by  
the next mail. Absolutely im-  
possible by the present mail;  
There is a rush of business and  
good Fr. Delon did not return  
yet. I shall have more leisure  
time to write when he will be back,  
unless (very probable) he will fly  
somewhere else. I am anxiously  
waiting for Fr. Menager and Fr. Fox.  
I sent a boat for them, but not yet  
any news of them - Excuse my hurry -  
In union of prayers, your paternally  
L. Luahesi S.J.



40-1

Holy Cross August 18th, 1930 Alaska

Dear Monsignore,

P.C.- Fr. Fox started with Fr. Willebrand on the 11 Aug. for Port Townsend to make their third probation. ~~They SEP 11 1930~~ ~~remained with us for a week, and~~ Fr. Fox was very busy going over the ~~books~~ ~~that were waiting here for~~ him and writing letters of thanksgiving. ~~May God bring him back healthy~~ and strong and holy to continue his excellent work at Kashunok. He told me about your remarks and gave me your ~~views~~ ~~regarding the gaso-~~ line used on our boats and consequent high cost. ~~He must have explain to~~ you already how things really stand; however, clarification is gratia. I wish to state or better to give a clearer idea how things stand. From Holy Cross to Kashunok or Hooper Bay we count (one more or less) 500 miles, 1000 including return trip; our boat engine is 30 H.P.-According to the commonly accepted reckoning, gasoline combustion for each H.P. is 1 pint per hour; viz. 3 gall. 6 pnts. The time spent for the round trip is 115 hours a little over 43 cases of gas. (exactly 431 gallons). This in average water, weather, load etc. But we must take into account the head wind, the strong current of the Yukon, the frequent stopping, slacking in the awful Kashunok river, reversing when running into shallow water or sandbars etc. etc. Add yet the many trips required to transfer supplies from Hooper Bay, landing point of the Ocean steamers, to Kashunok and you will see that over 50 cases of gas are not extravagant, but scarcely sufficient with a careful economic handling. -As for the price, good Fr. Fox is right to say that one case costs \$ 10 down there in the wilderness of the Bering Sea; but the common price on the Yukon so far is \$ 7; as we buy it in the States or more recently in Seward, it come to us about or less than \$ 6 per case. We could get much better prices by ordering enough to make a carload; Following this plan at the invitation of the Standard Oil Co. last week I ordered a carload of gasoline, Kerosene, lubricating oils etc. enough to supply next year Holy Cross, Nulato, Akulurak, Kashunok, Pimute, Mt. Village and Kashunok and Hooper Bay. But Fr. Menager told me that this year the price is very high 30¢ a gallon, and I got scared. Impossible to pay such exorbitant amount of money. So I cancelled the order by telegram regretting to miss such good chance of sparing money, were the prices as low as they were this past year. However I hope that our Superior will see to it for next year... and our good Washington Vice-Superior will help us to solve this important economic problem. -I hope I did not make the matter darker by my lengthy explanation. -All are anxious to see Fr. Delon back; it is a real drawback his prolonged absence in many ways. Nothing is settled yet for Pimute; so far no supplies, no teacher, not enough wood. We shall see pretty soon. -I must hurry to write many more letters.

Thanking you very much over again I am yours in X,

*J. L. Uechesi S.J.*  
J. L. Uechesi S.J.

(ENCLOSURE)

40-1

Copy for Bureau

" to S  
" " Fr. Lucchesi  
orig to donor 9/29/30

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska  
August 18, 1930.

Dear Miss Berrigan: *aw*

I can not tell you how glad I was in receiving your club's generous check, not so much for the money (though God knows how necessary and welcome it is just now) but for hearing your name again and realizing that the ever faithful members of the Takakwita Missionary Club have not yet given up this old Alaskan tramp. God bless them all and you, dear Miss Berrigan, on account of your charity to our mission. I appreciate it even more knowing the general financial depression in the States, of which we badly feel the effects, because the gifts and donations are diminishing very much in number and quantity or value, and so we are rather pinched and find hard to pay all the many bills that are pouring down from every side. Alaska is an awfully expensive country, because on account of the scarcity of white men and business or commerce. The very few navigating boats charge very highly for transportation to cover their expenses and without good Uncle Sam's efficient help to the only railroad existing and 2 boats connected with it, would be nearly impossible to get anything at all. Confidence in God, blind confidence, is perhaps the most necessary virtue to the Alaskan missionary in every line. Just now we ordered the gasoline, coal oil etc. necessary for the very long and dark winter and for our boats in summer; without such oils, we are helpless; everything would practically come to a standstill. The bill running up to or over one thousand dollars will come along and Holy Providence has to get the money some way or other. Your twenty-five dollars, blessed by God and the "Little Flower" like the evangeline loaves and fishes, will multiply, I am sure, into thousands. But holy poverty and confidence are always producing or at least forecoding an abundance of spiritual fruits. And so it is presently by God's grace, our missions, especially the new ones are progressing and the neophytes prove themselves steady and fervent. The mission of the Sacred Heart in Kashunak and the Little Flower at Napararament (Hooper Bay) give us great consolations. The two devoted missionaries, who care for them respectively, coming here few days ago, gave us very consoling reports of their labors among those poor Eskimo, who only three or four years ago, were only baptized by us, and almost ignorant of our religion. For myself, I do attribute this magnificent success to the prayers in heaven of our regretted saintly Fr. Trece, who for nearly two scores of years, unable to do more, was visiting them baptizing their children and giving all the instruction he could in such short and far apart visits. How much did he suffer during those long tiresome trips on the ice! spending all nights outside in the furious arctic storms, in imminent danger of freezing to death! Such a night he had to go through in his last long trip there, when already over seventy years old; himself told me on his return that he thought he was going to die like Fr. Ruppert, as he could not put up any kind of shelter, and the violent gale was carrying away his blanket as soon as he attempted to unfold it; but he was not only resigned but happy and when 2 years after was dying, he said jokingly: "When I go to heaven, I will scold a little the "Little Flower" because she does not do enough for Alaska." As a matter of fact, the change that took place in that district in three years is simply marvelous; new, perfectly fit missionaries, new chapels, schools, plenty of conversions, good catechists, etc. and is going on yet every minute. Oh! how much good can do a holy soul in life and still after death. Please tell the members of the club that we do pray for them and for all their intentions. I thank you personally for all your charity to me; Dante, organ etc. God bless you. I hope to hear from you again before your feast day.

Yours in Christ,

John L. Lucchesi, S.J.,

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

August 27, 1930.

Mrs. Mary A. Maloney, Connecticut  
you in response to your appeal in THE INDIAN SENTINEL for food.  
*Julia, Fox's*

6

MJ:CU



Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

40-1  
August 27, 1930.

10

Miss Catherine Huano, Connecticut  
you in response to your appeal in THE INDIAN SENTINEL for food.  
*Truly Yours*

MJ:CH



August 27, 1930.

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

5

Mrs. P. Guillard, California  
you in response to your appeal in THE INDIAN SENTINEL for food.  
*Father, Jax*

MJ:GW

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

Miss Mary Schuler, Minnesota  
you.

August 27, 1930.

5

MJ:CV

August 26, 1930. 40-1

Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J.,  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

Donations, as shown by the enclosed check, for \$207 are in response to an appeal made by Father Fox for money for food for the Eskimo children. The appeal was published on the inside back cover of the Summer issue of THE INDIAN SENTINEL. I enclose clipping from the magazine for your information. \$10 only is for Father Fox's typewriter fund.

After preparing these letters, I received a letter from Father Wilbert stating that he and Father Fox had been assigned to the States for their tertianship. As I have received from you no official notice of this change, I thought it best to send the letters as I had prepared them direct to you. If Father Fox is coming to the States I will ask you kindly to see that letters of thanks are prepared and sent to the donors, to fulfill the promise made to them in the appeal.

Yours fraternally,

SF:MC

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.  
I would appreciate receiving a memorandum of changes in the personnel of Alaskan missions.

HOLY CROSS MISSION

HOLY CROSS, ALASKA

Sept. 2d, 1930

(1930)

10-1

P.C.- <sup>SEP 25 1930</sup> ~~Rev. Reverend~~ <sup>Ans.</sup> ~~Dearest~~ <sup>Masson</sup> ~~Monsignore~~ <sup>Dr.</sup> ~~Dr.~~  
<sup>Letter to</sup> ~~Asper, Fr.~~ <sup>Work</sup> ~~told me to mind his mail and~~ <sup>Sp. O.K.</sup> ~~answer his letters and donations, I try to~~ <sup>P.O.</sup>  
<sup>do so the best I can, but it is pretty hard at</sup> ~~present, while R.F.F. Delon is absent. I recei-~~  
<sup>ved to day a wire telling that at last he</sup> ~~and Fr. Cunningham and the new young O Connor~~  
<sup>sailed from Seattle. Fiat! Fiat!</sup>

I enclose few letters, and I will send the bal-  
 lance next week. I asked Fr. Fox to leave some o  
 of his pictures for his benefactors, but he told  
 me that he had none and you had all. if so, and  
 you think good, please, put some in these letters.  
 If there are no- other telegraphic changes,  
 Fr. Post will go to Nalato, Fr. <sup>Joseph</sup> ~~Mac~~ Elmeel to Nome  
 Fr. <sup>Palmer</sup> ~~Savage~~ to Kashunok for a while. Fr. Concannon  
 always sick is going back to the States with  
 Br. Laird also sick. Fr. O Connor will peplace the  
 former. Fr. Baltussen at Pilgrim Springs, visi-  
 ting Arvinak, Fr. Desclout at Akulurak, your servant  
 back to Pimute. I must close asking your prayers

*J. J. Auker S. J.*



COPY FOR *Bureau*  
*Orig. to donor*  
27 1930 *SR*

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
September 2, 1930

[ENCLOSURE]

40-1

Dear Miss Walsh:

Your kind donation to Rev. Fr. Fox arrived here few days ago, alas! a little too late, because the good Father by order of our Rev. Provincial had left to winter in the states, but he will return early next spring to take up again with renewed vigor of body and soul his successful work in Kashumak, the Mission of the Sacred Heart. As he charged me with the very agreeable task of acknowledging his gifts and thanking the generous Benefactors I am glad to begin by thanking you very much for the box you sent him; the blanket is very nice and gifts like this ~~are~~ are always welcome in a country like Alaska in general and Kashumak in particular. cooler where the furious arctic storms make life very hard and carry the cold even in the most remote parts of the house. No wonder the natives from centuries and centuries live underground and build a long, long narrow and very low corridor before them. You must crawl on four, if you want to reach the door and be very humble keeping your head down..... Before getting used to this performance as I have the undesirable quality of being tall. I was always coming back from a trip in that country with a rich assortment of bumps and scratches in my head. Nor this is all, because after crawling in the dark a long time you reach the very, very small entrance, a real hole near which as a rule sleep the dogs who not knowing you think their duty to growl at you and show you their long fangs; but fear not, because it is only their dogish ceremonial with strangers; they don't mean evil, and find more comfortable not to hug from their warm corner.... warm for them of course, well protected by their shaggy long hair. If some one will every exhibit some thing like the eight Alaskan beatitudes I would humbly suggest to insert among them: Blessed the small and slim men because will enter easily the Alaskan dugouts. What gymnastic a tall man must go through to pass from the corridor to the interior of the house or hut! I was often caught and immobilized with a leg in the corridor and the other in the lower ground of the hut, unable to go on or to go back, or I was taken on my hands in a feet out to the great merriment of the natives inside, who had to come and pull me through. With time and experience of course thing are getting easier and we get the knack just like the Esquimuse. But I talk too much and abuse of your time, many thanks also for the milk and coffee that taken out of the box immediately filled the house with its exquisite flavor. God bless you, dear Miss Walsh and reward your charity with this spiritual and temporal choicest gives. Begging the charity of your prayers I am yours in the S.H.

John L. Macneil S. J.

COPIED BY MP

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Rev. John P. Fox, S.J.,  
Kashunak,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Fox:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$5 covering  
the gift of Mrs. Frank D. Sullivan of New Jersey, and which was  
designated for food for the Eskimo children.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Check made in favor of  
Rev. Philip Delon

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

W.H.:

Received the check named above

(Signed)

*John L. Laubner S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$5.00 covering  
the gift of Mrs. M. B. Hunsberger, Pennsylvania,  
designated for the Alaskan missions.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm. Hughes*  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

Received the check named above

(Signed) *Philip Delon S.J. per J.L.S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

September 3, 1930.

Rev. John P. Fox, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Fox:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$5  
the gift of Mrs. L. S. Lamm, Minnesota  
designated for food in response to your appeal in THE INDIAN SENTINEL.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Check made in favor of  
Rev. Philip Delon.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm. Hughes*  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

MJ:CW

Received the check named above

(Signed)

*John L. Luchessa*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)



40-1  
September 6, 1930.

Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

5.00 covering

Miss Mary Himmelsbach, Pennsylvania,  
Father Fox.

HC.

Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

September 6, 1930.

40-1

Dear Father Delon:

1.00 covering  
Mr. Maurice Griffin, Massachusetts which was  
food for the Eskimo children.

MJ:CB.

Very Rev. Philip L. Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

40-1  
September 8, 1930.

5.00 covering  
Miss Elizabeth Linch, Massachusetts, which was  
Father Fox.

HJ:CB.

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C. September 11, 1930.

Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J.,  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$2.20, covering  
the gift of Miss Mary C. Bratt of Ohio, which she has  
designated for Father Fox in response to his appeal in THE INDIAN SENTINEL.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ.

*Wm. Hughes*  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes.  
Director

MM

Received the check named above

(Signed)

*John L. Lanchesi S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)



40-1  
September 12, 1930.

Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S. J.,  
Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

2, covering  
Mrs. L. A. Whalen of New York, which she has  
Father Fox in response to his appeal in THE INDIAN SENTINEL.

127

Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S. J.,  
Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

40-1  
September 12, 1930.

Dear Father Delon:

Miss Helena Schachte of Pennsylvania, 25, covering  
Father Fox in response to his appeal in THE INDIAN SENTINEL.

Rec'd **OCT 18 1930** Amt. HOLY CROSS MISSION  
 Date **Sept. 22** Pnt. HOLY CROSS, ALASKA  
 Fol'd **Sept. 22, 1930**

Letter to **Dear Rev. Monsignore,**  
 P.C. d. **so.**

Ship't **Herein you will find a big batch of letters**  
 Cons. **one, which the other as wrote them in a**  
**hurry, as I am very busy in other important things**  
**now that our V.R. Superior fled back home I will**  
**have a little more time....but I am afraid he**  
**will fly again to Nome, Kotzebue etc.....So far**  
**he did not make up his mind what to do with me.**  
**Pimute people are getting impatient at the pro-**  
**longed absence of their priest and teacher, and**  
**want me back; good Fr. Menager asks to have me near**  
**him in Kashunok during Fr. Fox' absence, and I**  
**must confess I would be too happy to be with my o**  
**ld, primitive but very good natives...Well..God's**  
**will be done. Pr ay that He may grant me the grace**  
**of spending this little remanent of life at the**  
**front and make up for much lost time.**

I must beg you if you have in sufficient number  
 to put a picture in these letters. I did ask Fr. P  
 Fox but he told me he had none having sent all his  
 films to you. He tool several very good here, and  
 I am sure he must have sent these also to you.

Fr. Menager was with us for ~~1 1/2~~ 1 1/2 month  
 and all were sorry to let him go back to his so-  
 litude. He was deluged with parcels and every kind  
 of things; he gave plenty to us and to the Sisters.  
 Fr. Fox too had plenty and did the same. Now I am  
 in charge of his correspondence and from his boxes  
 I select what is useful for Kashunok and keep o-  
 ther things for him, or dispose for the poor .....  
 V.R. Superior is overbusy now but as ever seems  
 to fatten in proportion of the increasing busi-  
 ness. I must hurry up....the steames is coming  
 for the last mail. Please, help poor Pimute, if you  
 can; no supplies of any kind this year for me ort  
 the teacher; the people very poor too on account  
 of the continual and increasing restrictions on  
 their trapping and hunting and the ever diminishh  
 demand for cord wood; donations too are very scanty  
 Let us hope in Holy Providence and in its devo-  
 ted minister at Washington, the true "Sentinel of

the Indians and Esquimaux. When I will be  
more free I will try to write more interest-  
ing letters.

Thanking you for all your charity and  
begging your prayers, I am yours in X.

J.L. Lucchesi S.J.



COPY FOR Bureau

*Missionary  
dig. sent to Alaska 11/24/30*

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
September 15, 1930.

ENCLOSURE  
40-1

Miss Helen Murray,  
Hyde Park, Mass.

Dear Miss Murray:

I was very sorry when your fairy box came and found our good Father Fox gone already to the States, where he will spend the winter by order of our superiors. But he will come back promptly right after the breaking of the ice next June to continue his wonderful work on the Bering coast. Surely he would have been more than pleased and more than grateful for your thoughtful motherly charity. If your heart could be estimated from your box undoubtedly it must be a very big heart, a very sweet heart and a very comprehensive heart. Indeed you have not forgotten anything which could make Christmas happy for himself and by the happiness of the wee ones, for whom you have enclosed so many cheering things.

The only thing which to a superficial or malignant estimator could perhaps give a cause of slandering your heart is that beautiful chicken in can, an unheard of thing in our mission. But who ever in the whole world could be found able even to associate your heart with a chicken heart? Indeed, indeed that nice appetizing chicken shows openly how your heart thinks of everything, of the very best things for the poor missionaries of Alaska. God bless you and your good mother and your beautiful gardens and your beautiful flowers and may He prepare for you a beautiful garden of eternal, celestial flowers in heaven. I enclose a dry sample of Alaskan flower, wild, tundra flowers.

Father Fox will be informed of your charity and will (and I too) pray for you while his successor will enjoy the delicious banquet.

Yours in the Sacred Heart,

(Signed)

John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

COPIED BY MC

COPY FOR BUREAU  
ORIG. TO DONOR  
12/1/30 JR

Convent of St. Joseph,  
Brentwood, N.Y.

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
September 20, 1930

ENCLOSURE

40-1

Rev. Dear Mother Superior:

Your very welcome donation came a little too late to be received by Fr. Fox. He had left just a few days before bounng for Seattle; called by our Superior to spend the winter there busy, as it is the custom of our Society in perfecting his long Jesuit training by what we call third probation; but he will return early next spring to retake and continue his very good work at Kashunak, intensified, I am sure, by his renewed fervor and zeal. I am sure he would have been more than pleased with your box. Those flour sacks will be a real treasure for those extremely poor Eskimoes who will transform them into underware, parkier, or coverall and many other undescribed things, while the beads, medals and beautiful pictures will give spiritual comfort and encouragement perfecting and somewhat spiritualizing the bodily comfort you procure them. They are very good people, and will not fail to pray for you and all your intentions. I was given by Fr. Fox the sweet task of answering his letters and acknowledging his donations, but he did not give me his golden pen and big heart. Well, forgive me this time my short note, as the last boat before freezing his coming and I have a pile of letters to answer yet. Continue to help us both by your donations and yours and your good Sisters' prayers in which I do hope the Secretary will have some part - God bless you,

Yours in Christ,

John J. Lucchesi, S.J.

COPIED BY MP

Copy for Bureau  
Orig. to house  
1-1930 DR

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
September 20, 1930.

ENCLOSURE  
40-7

Miss Mary E. Thompson,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Miss Thompson:

Our beloved Father Foxe very regretfully left his good Eskimos of Kashunak to obey the summons of our Superiors to go spend the winter in the States though he will come back very early next spring, (Alaskan spring) viz. in June, to continue and enlarge his very good work at the coasts of the Bering Sea.

I am sure he, as myself, would have rejoiced very much in your very select gift. The two vases are very beautiful and artistic and the only trouble with them is that they will put to shame their neighbor on the altar, far inferior to them. The flowers too are very nice and, even more important, of the most fit material for that mission. The climate of the coast is awful: stormy, windy, foggy, and saturated with dampness, so that even the best artificial flowers, I suppose on account of the glue or muselage in their making, in a very short time fade away, get out of shape and unsightly.

God bless you, dear Miss Thompson, for your zeal in adorning His altar and His house in the lonely Alaska, and may He prepare a rich crown of heavenly flowers to place on your head, when after a long, long life all spent for His glory, you will see Him face to face. Father Foxe will be informed of your donation and we will pray for you and all your intentions.

Yours truly in the Sacred Heart,

(Signed) Rev. J. L. Lucchesi, S.J.  
By request of Rev. John Foxe, S.J.

Copied by CB.

Copy for Bureau  
*Original donor*  
DEC 1 - 1930 *R.*

Mrs. Alexius M. McGlennen,  
Baltimore,  
Maryland.

Dear Mrs. McGlennen:

I am somewhat late in acknowledging your very welcome donation, but the reason is that I was kept very busy and had no time to open and examine the box. I did at last and, as I expected from last years experience, I was not disappointed, but on the contrary I found it even better than the others. While unpacking I could not help admiring your wonderful charity and patience in gathering and packing so carefully so many different things, which will surely enhance and make happier our Christmas at Pimute. It would not be exaggeration to say that Pimute Mission is the offspring of Baltimore. In fact the building was put up and the chapel, school etc. started by a baltimorian, good Father Eddie Cunningham, whom you have met this summer. The simple, but artistic, beautiful altar is the work of the never to be forgotten Father Judge, whose memory is even now in benediction among the old good miners. The chalice with which I celebrate every day is the gift of an other Baltimorian whom certainly you must know; and the organ can tell its own story in the front target, "Gift of Mr. and Mrs. A. McGlennen-Baltimore." So, you see, we cannot forget you and by your gifts you are always present and living with us. And I am sure, if you were really and personally here, you would be happy to see such good people and fervent Christians. Please, pray for them and for their old pastor that God may be always well served and loved by all.

Good Father Cunningham was last week few hours with us on his way to his mission of Mt. Village.

Thanking you again and wishing you every blessing, I am in the Sacred Heart

(Signed) Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

Copied by HS.

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska,  
September 21, 1930.

[ENCLOSURE]

40-1



Copy for *Bureau*

*Orig. to donor*

DEC 1 - 1930 *JK*

Miss Martha E. Hopkins,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska,  
September 21, 1930.

ENCLOSURE

40 -1

Dear Miss Hopkins:

I often think that it is providential that you are not a millionaire, because if you were, you would buy and send us so many, many, nice, luxurious things that you would spoil us, and make hard for us to keep our vow of poverty and go astray from the way of the Cross! You don't forget anybody and send to all candy, cigars, etc. You are in reality one (and not the least) of the mission angels. God bless ~~xxxx~~ you and may He give you (after 100 years) a beautiful place among His Angels in heaven. I am very glad that you met Father Eddie and Father Delon. Both are back now; Father Delon came flying in our new plane: Father Eddie came by steamer, remained only few hours and continued on the same steamer to his station Mt. Village, as we were very busy. We could not have a good long talk; but he told me that he saw you and several other Baltimorean benefactors. Your candy are surely well looking; and the tarts must be accordingly exquisite; but they must wait in their box till Christmas comes! I must hurry up to catch the last mail of the season and promise you that I will never forget you and your good mother. May she live many years yey for your consolation and for the good of our missions.

Thanking you over again, also in the name of Father Fox, who is and will be in the States for the winter, I am

Yours truly in the Sacred Heart,

(Signed)

Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

Copied by HS.

Copy for: *Bureau*  
*Chgo. to Denver*  
DEC 1-1930 *R*

Miss Cecilia Eltgroth,  
Carroll, Iowa.

Dear Miss Eltgroth:

Good Father Fox left Alaska for the States, called by our Superior to spend the winter there, but he will come back as soon as possible next spring to take up again his good work in that most difficult mission of the Sacred Heart in Kashunok. Your nice donation came just a few days after his departure and I am sorry because he would have been glad to receive and acknowledge it himself. As he gave me the pleasing task to do it in his place. I thank you very much for all the nice and useful things you sent in the box. His good Eskimo will be grateful for the dry goods you sent, and his temporary successor will benefit of the fine candy and of the interesting book. It is a great consolation as well as a substantial help for us, missionaries in Alaska to see that so many good souls take great interest in our work. A.M.D.G. and show it by generous gifts and, I am sure, for the even more coveted for prayers and sacrifices.

God bless you a hundred times, dear friend, for your charity and as you try to sweeten our rather hard life, may He sweeten also your sorrows and trials and change them into so many degrees of glory, happiness in heaven.

Yours thankfully in the Sacred Heart,

(Signed) J. L. Lucchesi, S.J.

Copied by CW

Holy Cross Mission  
Holy Cross, Alaska.  
September 21, 1930.

ENCLOSURE  
40-7

Copy for *Bureau Miss.*  
*Miss Mary Clarkin*  
Miss Mary Clarkin,  
Woodward, Iowa.

Sept. 22, 1930

[ENCLOSURE]  
40-1

Dear Miss Clarkin:

May the Infant Jesus give you a happy sweet Christmas as in the generosity and all embracing charity of your heart, you tried to prepare for good rather Fox. Too bad that he last left few days before your excellent box came, and so could not see it and thank you. He left this sweet task to me, while out for the winter; but he will come back as early as possible next spring, and will resume his good work at Kashunak among his fervent Christians. However he will be informed of your donation and surely he will pray for you while his temporary summer in Kashunak and the people will have a happier Christmas by your charity. May God bless you and reward you as He knows so well to do.

I would like to write a longer letter, but the last mail boat is coming and I must hurry up to write many letters more, before all our communications with the world are cut asunder. Begging your good prayers and wishing you a very happy Christmas, I am yours in the S. H.

(Signed) J. L. Lucchesi, S.J.

Copied by TB.

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS

2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J.  
Holy Cross,  
Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$5  
the gift of Miss Mary O'Connor, Illinois  
designated for Father Fox's mission.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

MJ:CM

Received the check named above

(Signed)

*John L. Luchesi S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

The donor requests prayers for her special intention.



40-1

September 27, 1930.

Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J.,  
Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Delon:

5.00 covering

Mrs. Adams, Massachusetts, which was  
food for Eskimo children.

MJ:CB.

40-1

October 7, 1930.

Rev. Patrick F. Savage, S.J.,  
Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Savage:

I enclose Bureau check covering Marquette League donation of \$115.00  
designated to be sent to you.

Kindly make acknowledgment of this gift direct to Rev. William J. Flynn,  
Secretary General of the Marquette League, 105 East 22nd Street, New York City,  
New York.

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

MC

This gift is from the Ladies of the Visitation Alumnae.

40-1

October 9, 1930.

Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.J.,  
Pimute,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Lucchesi:

10, covering

Mrs. Emily Orr of Ohio, which she has  
you.

JR  
As you know, I gave Mrs. Orr your address for shipment in August. Mrs.  
Orr has just informed me that she will not send a box, but that she is  
sending you the gift of \$10 instead.

Repository - Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES			
COUNTER No.	CLARENCE H. MACKAY, President	CHECK	
TIME FILED	<b>TELEGRAM</b>		40-1
COPY FOR FILE	The Postal Telegraph-Cable Company (Incorporated) transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.		
<small>SEND the following Telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to.</small>			
<i>straight telegram</i> [DESIGN PATENT No. 40529]			
To	Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.J.,	October 15,	1920
Holy Cross, Alaska, Via Seattle, Wash.			
Heartfelt sympathy. Newspaper accounts incomplete. Write fully immediately			
air mail.			
William Hughes			
<i>Sent by Western Union, collect</i>			



PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

12018

CLASS OF SERVICE  This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.	Rec'd	07 10 1930	Ant.	On
	Ans.	76	Pat.	Pl.
	Pol'd		Messages	Dr.
	Letter to		J. O.	
	Order filled		P. O.	
	Ship't		Work	
	Copy			

SIGNS
DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LCO = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
WLT = Week-End Letter

W. G. CARLTON, PRESIDENT J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT  
The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Rec'd at Commercial Nat'l Bank Bldg 14th & P Sts N.W. Washington, D. C. ALWAYS OPEN 1930 OCT 19 AM 4 16  
CC21 50 NL=WU HOLYCROSS ALASKA 18

MONSIGNOR W HUGHES, TWO NAUGHT TWO ONE H ST=  
NEW WASHINGTON DC=

OURSELVES HERE HAVE NO OTHER DETAILS ASK BISHOP WHO HANDLES  
THE WHOLE SITUATION AND IS NOW IN SANFRANCISCO CALIFORNIA  
LAFORTUNE APPOINTED KOTZEBUE DELON BODY TO BE BURIED  
PILGRIMSPRINGS NEAR FATHER RUPERT NO AIR MAIL HERE ICE  
RUNNING NOW PREVENTS WRITING WHEN OVER I WILL SEND LETTERS  
AND PHOTOS HEARTFELT THANKS=  
LUCCHESI.

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.J.,  
Pimute,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Lucchesi:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$25 covering  
the gift of St. Martin's Altar and Mission Society, Illinois, which was  
designated for food for Eskimo children of Alaska.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm. Hughes*

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

MI:MS.

Received the check named above

(Signed)

*John L. Lucchesi S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

Rec'd NOV 21/1930  
 ADP. 11/28/30  
 Fol'd  
 Letter to  
 Order filed  
 Ship't  
 Copy to  
 Copy to

Holy Cross - Oct. 27 - 1930  
 Alaska

Purcay, Alaska, Dear Monsignore,  
 O. B. - I profit of a flying machine due here at any time to drop few lines to you, and thank you very much for your kind words sent by wireless. We try, but cannot yet get over the awful shock..... Holy Cross seems like a body without soul; tears are yet springing and flowing by many eyes. I am sure up to this time you have more details of the catastrophe than we have even now. The mail does not run yet and so no letters, no papers, no news; all is dark and gloom. Well! God's will be done!  
 It is a terrible loss for the Mission; it will be very hard to replace a man like Fr. Delon, and in a smaller degree, like good Fr. Walsh, who accomplished so much in such short time at Kotzebue, the St. Francis Xavier Mission. I have no doubt that Almighty God, ever living in His designs, allowed such have to happen, to strengthen our confidence in Him, and to crown with a martyr's death a life all spent in His holy service and love. From his early childhood he loved God and gave himself to Him without reserve. Leaving his family, he entered the Apostolic School of Bourdeaux in France, where under the

spiritual direction of the celebrated Fr. Laborde, made  
wonderful progress and prepared himself for the missionary  
life. <sup>Came to America and</sup> Gifted with a splendid mind, excellent memory,  
and indomitable will, went through all the long course  
of studies and teaching required by St. Ignatius to make  
a Jesuit, excelling among his companions. At last his  
ardent desire of being a missionary in Alaska was ful-  
filled; leaving a flourishing Parish and high school in  
Missoula, regretted by all, who knew him, came to Alaska  
in 1915, and at once he began to study the Inuit lan-  
guage and make apostolic excursions in the innumerable  
Inupiat hamlets around Oskuluk on the Yukon  
Delta. From there he went to St. Michael and after  
one year spent usefully there alone, was called to  
Holy Cross to be Superior of that Mission and in  
1923 general Superior of the Alaska Mission. The seven  
years of his superintendence mark an era of wonderful  
progress of the Mission; boarding schools and day schools  
duplicated the number of <sup>their</sup> pupils and, what is more,  
added improved by far their piety, and education. Five  
new Missions were started, new stations also with catechists;  
only those who live in this wild country can appreciate  
the magnitude of the ponderous task of so many new buildings,  
and institutions, where there are awful difficulties for



transportation, communications and where we must depend only on ourselves and do the work in the very few months of free navigation. But he was a man of unbounded confidence in God and ardent zeal and never gave allowing to himself a moment of rest; he knew not what recreation or relaxation is; following everything and every body even in the smallest details. To me it was a mystery how he could stand such life of uninterrupted work, sleeping so little and practicing penance besides. No wonder then that when the wires brought the news of his noble death in the exercise of duty and charity, all, without an exception, express the opinion that one more Saint had entered heaven. "Father," a good soul told me, "I think that the devil killed him?" "Why so?" "Because he must have been very mad, as Fr. Delon stole so many souls from him, and never let him have one." Let us rather think that God saw him ripe for heaven and accepted the sacrifice of his life. Evidently he expected death, because before starting to fly, he had appointed in a sealed note his provisory successor. May our Savior grant us many more Missionaries, like him!

Dear Missions, since Fr. Delon's death I was busy going over his innumerable papers, bills, affairs etc, and you can imagine, it is not an easy job. I found

packages not yet opened by him, and others not open  
at all: letters from you Bureau, donations etc, but not  
a cent.... Evidently he had brought the checks along  
with him. I don't know either if he acknowledged  
them or not. As soon as possible I will go over again and  
answer the latest ones; but, I suppose, the good Bene-  
factor would not mind or expect an answer after his  
death. Very hard time for me now, interests of Brother,  
the Dr. Robart failing and near dying; Dr. Savage  
leaving on this plane for the States etc; scarcely any  
money left and lots of bills to pay; lots of unfinished  
business to settle etc. - Well, pray for me, dear Mrs.  
Jane, send us some help, if you possibly can,  
and bless you for all you do for us - Yours truly  
on the 6th.

John L. Lucken Jr.

# TYPESCRIPT OF PRECEDING DOCUMENT

Copy for *Bureau*

Holy Cross - Oct. 27, 1930  
Alaska.

Rt. Rev. Dear Monsignor:

P.C.- I profit of a flying machine due here at any time to drop few lines to you, and thank you very much for your kind words sent by wireless. We try, but can not yet get over the awful shock. Holy Cross seems like a body without soul; tears are yet springing and flowing by many eyes. I am sure up to this time you have more details of the catastrophe than we have even now. The mail does not run yet and so no letters, no papers, no news; all is dark and gloom. Well! God's will be done! It is a terrible loss for the mission; it will be very hard to replace a man like Father Delon, and in a smaller degree, like good Father Walsh, who accomplished so much in such short time at Kotzebue, the St. Francis Xavier Mission. I have no doubt that Almighty God, ever loving in His doings, allowed such havoc to happen to strengthen our confidence in Him, and to crown with a martyr's death a life all spent in His holy service and love. From his early childhood he loved God and gave himself to Him without reserve. Leaving his family, he entered the Apostolic School of Bourdeau in France, where under the spiritual direction of the celebrated Father LaCorde, made wonderful progress and prepared himself for the missionary life. Come to America and gifted with a splendid mind, excellent memory, and indomitable will, went through all the long course of studies and teaching required by St. Ignatius to make a Jesuit, excelling among his companions. At last his ardent desire of being a missionary in Alaska was fulfilled; leaving a flourishing parish and high school in Missoula, regretted by all who knew him, came to Alaska in 1915, and at once he began to study the Innuait language and make apostolic excursions in the innumerable Eskimo hamlets around Akuluruk on the Yukon Delta. From there he went to St. Michael and after one year spent usefully there alone was called to Holy Cross to be Superior of that mission and in 1923 General Superior of the Alaska Missions. The seven years of his superiorship mark an era of wonderful progress of the mission, boarding schools and day schools duplicated the number of their pupils and, what is more, ~~added~~ improved by far their piety and education. Five new missions were started, new stations also with catechists; only those who live in this wild country can appreciate the magnitude of the ponderous task of so many new buildings, and institutions, where there are awful difficulties for transportation, communications and when we must depend only on ourselves and do the work in the very few months of free navigation. But he was a man of unbounded confidence in God and ardent zeal and never allowing to himself a moment of rest; he knew not what recreation or relaxation is; following everything and everybody even in the smallest details. To me it was a mystery how he could stand such life of uninterrupted work, sleeping so little and practising penance besides. No wonder then that when the wireless brought the news of his noble death in the exercise of duty and charity, all, without an exception, express the opinion that one more Saint had entered heaven. "Father, a good soul told me I think that the devil killed him?" "Why so?" "Because he must have been very mad, as Father Delon stole so many souls from him and never let him have one." Let us rather think that God saw him ripe for heaven and accepted death, because before starting to fly he had appointed in a sealed note his provisory successor. May Our Savior grant us many more missionaries, like him!

Dear Monsignor since Father Delon's death I was busy going over his innumerable papers, bills, affairs etc. and you can imagine it is not an easy job. I found packages not yet opened by him, and others not open at all; letters from your Bureau, donations etc. but not a cent. Evidently he had brought the checks along with him. I don't know either if he acknowledged them or not - as soon as possible

I will go over again and answer the latest ones; but, I suppose, the good benefactors would not mind or expect an answer after his death. Very hard time for me now; retreats of Brothers etc.; Father Robaut failing and near dying; Father Savage leaving on this plane for the States etc. scarcely any money left and lots of bills to pay, lots of unfinished business to settle etc. Well, pray for me, dear Monsignor, send us some help, if you possibly can, God bless you for all you do for us.

Yours truly in the S. H.

(Signed)

John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

Copied by TB.



Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Sisters of St. Ann,  
Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Sisters:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$10.00 covering  
the gift of Mr. George E. Yahn of Pennsylvania, which he has  
designated for you.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director

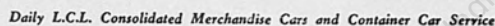
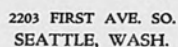
TB

Received the check named above

(Signed) *Sister Mary Perpetual Help Superior*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

THE NATIONAL FREIGHT COMPANY



### Domestic and Foreign Freight Contractors

Rec'd NOV 19 1930 NOV. 11, 1930  
 Arr. NOV 21 1930 N 1480 542-161  
 Exp'd March 1931  
 Sent to \_\_\_\_\_  
 in Society, \_\_\_\_\_ Work Slip O.K.  
 Capt. \_\_\_\_\_ List.  
 City of L.S. \_\_\_\_\_ D.G. or Ref.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Check sent

On September 4th, we forwarded from Seattle to Father P. I. DeLon at Hamilton, Alaska, a shipment of engine parts from the Cummings Engine Company, Columbus, Indiana. These parts were from the engine in the plane being used by Father DeLon in his missionary work.

We are enclosing our freight bill in the amount of \$37.57 covering charges from Columbus to Hamilton, Alaska as it was necessary that we prepay the charges on this shipment to destination and we sent the bill to Father DeLon for payment. It apparently was not received prior to his passing.

We shall appreciate receiving your check for these charges and wish to assure you that if at any time we should receive a check from anyone in Alaska covering these charges, check will be returned with explanation.

Yours very truly,

JUDSON FREIGHT FORWARDING CO.

Manager

GRF/e

**FAST** \_\_\_\_\_ **FREIGHT**  
**SERVICE** \_\_\_\_\_ **SERVICE**  
**IT CAN BE DONE**

40-1

November 15, 1930.

Sisters of St. Ann,  
Holy Cross Mission,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Sisters:

20, covering  
Mrs. H. B. Kraft of Pennsylvania, which she has  
your Christmas party or any other use you see fit.

JR

You will no doubt recall that last year about this time Mrs. Kraft sent me a donation for you. She has written me that she is sorry that her gift this year is not as large as that of last year, but that she has been ill for some time and of course is not able to send as much as she did last year. She also asked me to express her gratitude to you and to little Angela Winiantuff for the letters of thanks which you sent to her through this Bureau.

40-1

Rec'd	DEC 12 1930	Ans	_____	On
Ans	_____	Ent	_____	On
Fol'd	_____	Mess	_____	Dr
Letter to	_____		_____	O O
Order filled	_____	Work Slip O.K.	_____	P O
Ship't	_____	Lib	_____	S O
Copy to l. S	_____	D.G. & Ref	_____	29
Copy to	_____		_____	5

Koly Cross, Alaska,  
November 18, 1930.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Washington, D.C.

Reverend and dear Monsignor:—

This sweet season of Christmas will, no doubt, bring many greetings and wishes to you; and we, your far off little friends in Alaska also come with our messages of good cheer and happiness. In this we include our most hearty thanks for the great interest you take in this mission and we will redouble our prayers to the Infant Savior in the manger to shower on you His choicest blessings on all your un-



undertakings.

We are eagerly awaiting the coming festival, but over our happiness lurks the shadow of the departure of our dear Father Superior.

We cannot help mentioning a word about this dear Father for to him we owe so much of what we hold most dear — our Faith especially.

Father Robaut, the venerated founder of this mission, has been losing much in health since dear Father Delon's death.

The message was a bitter shock for every one here, yet we know it must be for the best so we try to say with resignation, "Thy will be done!" Surely our former saintly Superior will smile from his place in Heaven on his

lonesome children here and help  
us still to carry on the one great  
work which he had offered his  
life for, namely the spreading of  
the Faith.

Dear Monsignor, we must  
now end this little talk.

Once more wishing you a Merry  
Christmas and happiness in the  
coming year, we remain

The Grateful Children of  
Holy Cross.

By Ida Demientieff.

40-1  
November 21, 1930.

Judson Freight Forwarding Company,  
2203 First Avenue, So.,  
Seattle, Wash.

Gentlemen: Attention Mr. G. R. Frasier, Manager

I have your letter of November 11 enclosing freight bill for shipment made to Father Philip I. Delon, August 12, 1930.

This Bureau has nothing to do with this bill. The Bureau helps the missionaries when it can but accepts no obligations which itself does not assume.

I have no doubt the matter will be taken care of by the proper person. The Jesuit Fathers at Seattle College can probably tell you who the person is.

I do not know whether Father Delon's successor has been appointed in Alaska.

Yours very truly,

Rt. Rev. Magr. William Hughes,  
Director.

WH:JR

November 28, 1930.

Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.J.,  
Pimute,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Lucchesi:

I thank you for your letter of October 27,  
copy of which I enclose. I thank you also for the  
pictures of Father Delon.

I hope to prepare from your letter the obituary  
for publication in the Winter issue of The Indian  
Sentinel. Some additional facts that I have here  
will be incorporated in the article which will appear  
over your signature.

I appreciate your faithful cooperation.

Yours fraternally,

SF:TB

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes.  
Director.



Rev. J. L. Lucchesi, S.J.,  
Pisante,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

December 6, 1930

Dear Father Lucchesi:

I am quoting to you two paragraphs of a letter of thanks dated March 15, 1930, from Very Rev. Philip Delon, S.J. to Mrs. H. A. Holt, Buffalo, New York.

"The Rt. Rev. Mgr. Hughes of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions has sent me your gift of \$1,000 for the erection of a chapel among the Nukimos.

"The chapel will be built this coming summer at Marshall, two hundred miles from the Bering Sea, and, according to your wishes, in honor of the Blessed Sacrament, the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and to the memory of Dr. C. A. Holt."

As Mrs. Holt is very anxious to know about her chapel, I will ask you kindly to write me and let me know if the chapel is in process of building or completed. I would appreciate any information about this chapel.

Yours fraternally,

MJ:MB.

Rt. Rev. Mgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS  
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.J.,  
Fimute,  
Holy Cross, Alaska.

Dear Father Lucchesi:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$ 10, covering  
the gift of the Notre Dame Sodality, Notre Dame Academy, Illinois,  
designated for a needy Alaskan missionary.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of  
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal  
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

*Wm Hughes*

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

JR

Received the check named above

(Signed) *John L. Lucchesi S.J.*

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for  
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

40-1

Holy Cross, Alaska

December 31, 1930

My Dear my Uncle Mike  
How are you. We Catholics  
in Holy Cross we go to Church  
every day because we have  
Christ Church and you  
have man church you  
can not go to heaven  
Because you have man  
Church and we Catholics  
we have Holy Communion  
because no Holy Communion  
can not go to heaven  
That man you call Father  
not Father only story  
man that man no working

God only working many  
Dollor Me Chatholices Fathers  
no working many Dollor  
only working God And  
Brothers and Sisters do  
working God. You come  
now Chatholic church Meke  
and you choldren don't  
give story man you give to  
Chatholices.

Good Bye  
Meke

Floyd, Hoop Bye



VERSO OF PRECEDING DOCUMENT

The writer of this letter is a big  
boy, who came only last summer to  
school from Hooper Bay. It may  
amuse you a little in your hard work,  
and show his profit at school in religious  
of course, the story mean is the Prot. minister  
no copyright

TYPESCRIPT OF PRECEDING DOCUMENT

COPY FOR *Bureau*  
*234 ME*

[1936] 40-1

Mr. H. Venn,  
River Forest, Ill.

Pimute-Holy Cross P. O., Alaska.

My dear Mr. Venn:

Just now I am doubting if I have to write: "Dear Mr. Venn" or rather "Sweet Mr. Venn", because good St. Joseph brought, or caused to be brought just today, his feast day your wonderful parcel with excellent chocolates and fine candies. As parcels in winter are not accepted for Alaska and very seldom anyone succeeds to make here its appearance, the children are sure it is St. Joseph, who sent them today. But never mind, all of us are very grateful to you for your generous present, which if did not come in time for Christmas as evidently was your intention, came anyhow in time for Easter and it is much better in some way, because for Easter as a rule, candies or sweets are not coming, and there are not left from Christmas. So you will give us a very Joyous, Sweet Easter, and I am sure the newly risen Saviour will be also thankful to you for the joy you add for us to that of His glorious Resurrection. We will pray for you and all your intentions, and we do hope too, (to tell you in all confidence) that next Christmas will be not jealous of Easter, because.. Well...no need to tell you... you will surely see to it that there will be no envy between Christmas and Easter. I wish you would be here to witness the joy and happiness caused by your gift to our Eskimos children ...and grown-ups as well. For Christmas no candies came to me, though some were announced; so I had to buy some from a trader, who very kindly refused any pay and donated them. I announced them only for the children, but then, "We are children also, Father, we are children" was shouted from every side, and large rough hands stretched out...Every one had a few and every one was happy as a real child and when I scattered the few left on the floor, instantly all the crowd was in the floor too, old, young, men and women and children laughing and trying by fun to take away from the others.

Wishing you a very Holy and Happy Easter, I am yours thankfully in the S.H.

COPIED BY HS.

(Signed) Rev. John L. Lucchesi, S.J.

HOLY CROSS MISSION,  
HOLY CROSS, ALASKA

[1930]

I owe you a word of apology. You might justly accuse me of ingratitude and even of a common lack of civility for delaying so long to thank you for the help you have sent me. Many months of extreme rush and constant grind prevented me from writing you sooner. But meantime I have kept you in my prayers, and hoped for this opportunity to tell you what your charity means to us on Alaskan missions.

The entire Alaskan mission is now passing through a critical but hopeful stage of its development. We have not enough men. We could easily get more priests and Brothers or at least more native catechists to assist the priests and Brothers if only we could get the support for them. Our superiors have been most generous in their efforts to keep our numbers supplied to the limit. But within the past five years sickness and death have depleted our forces. More than a dozen Sisters and Brothers have had to be recalled to the States to recuperate their failing health. Five priests have been called by the Master of the harvest to rest from their labors. They are Fathers Ruppert, Treca, Jette, Rossi, and Keyes, and two Brothers, Marchisio and McSweeney.

While the number of laborers was fast diminishing, the spiritual dangers besetting our Eskimo all along the coast were making it imperative for us to open new stations along the western coast of Alaska, from the mouth of the Yukon to Bristol Bay. The unabating and hitherto unchecked activities of various proselytizing agencies threatened to undermine the work of many years. In one district alone 300 Catholic natives were in danger of being lost to the Church.

We could not possibly stand by and let these helpless souls be torn from the embrace of the loving Heart of our Savior. So, without so much as a dollar that we could call our own, we gathered all our forces and all necessary supplies and material and we sailed for days over a tortuous, sluggish and shallow river till after two long weeks we reached the site of our new missions, a small knoll surrounded by lakes and the sea in one case, and a low swamp surrounded by deeper swamps in the other. No better locations could be found. But the cost was enormous and that in spite of the fact that three of our Jesuit Brothers, and more than a dozen boys and three of us priests, gave our labors unstintingly both in the navigation and in the actual erection of the buildings.

It is simply unthinkable and out of the question to ask or expect our Alaskan Eskimo and Indians to assist us financially. The only thing that can be reasonably expected from these natives is the hospitality of their wretched dwellings or dug-outs, when we reach their villages on our missionary trips. They give us the best they have, such as it is.

It is in such an emergency that your much needed help has reached me. Our grateful prayers are the only return we can make to you. May God reward you, and may He inspire others like you to help us. May I ask you to talk to your friends about the Alaskan missions?

Yours in the Sacred Heart,

[1930]

Holy Cross, Alaska

From Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J., Holy Cross Mission, Holy Cross, Alaska.

superior of  
Alaskan  
missions,

By Alaskan etiquette, no one will ever refuse to open wide the door of hospitality to any caller, no matter who he may be. If there is no chapel in a village, when the priest gets to that village on his missionary tours, he must go and lodge with some of these poor Eskime or Indians, live in their houses as long as he stays in the village, sleep on their floor at night, submit to all the little drudgeries of that particular home life, be pestered by importunate visitors. The Father has no privacy, and those who want to speak to him have none either. Every word must be spoken in public, or not be spoken at all. A chapel is needed in every village. I want to build a little chapel at Marshall, over 100 miles from Holy Cross on the Yukon, at Kaltshak and at ~~Shagamute~~ <sup>Spring</sup>. After the break-up we must build at Nihmeut. That district is in danger of being lost to us unless we establish a mission there. Father Lafortune is now on King Island, where we must build a large chapel and a rectory. Though already deep in debt, we had to open the new mission of St. Francis Xavier at Kotzebue beyond the Arctic Circle. If we were to wait until we had funds in hand to pay for this work, villages where the natives have been won to the Faith by the pioneer missionaries in Alaska, would be snatched from the Church. We must go ahead and trust to Providence for the help we need. *As the cost of all materials are double in Alaska by reason of great distances and poor transportation facilities each chapel represents the outlay of about \$2,000.*



[1930]

Holy Cross, Alaska

From Very Rev. Philip I. Delon, S.J., Holy Cross Mission, Holy Cross, Alaska.

*superior of  
Alaskan  
missions,*

By Alaskan etiquette, no one will ever refuse to open wide the door of hospitality to any caller, no matter who he may be. If there is no chapel in a village, when the priest gets to that village on his missionary tours, he must go and lodge with some of these poor Eskimo or Indians, live in their houses as long as he stays in the village, sleep on their floor at night, submit to all the little drudgeries of that particular home life, be pestered by importunate visitors. The Father has no privacy, and those who want to speak to him have none either. Every word must be spoken in public, or not be spoken at all. A chapel is needed in every village. I want to build a little chapel at Marshall, over 100 miles from Holy Cross on the Yukon, at Kaltshak and at Shagamute. After the <sup>Spring</sup> break-up we must build at Nihmtout. That district is in danger of being lost to us unless we establish a mission there. Father Lafortune is now on King Island, where we must build a large chapel and a rectory. Though already deep in debt, we had to open the new mission of St. Francis Xavier at Kotzebue beyond the Arctic Circle. If we were to wait until we had funds in hand to pay for this work, villages where the natives have been won to the Faith by the pioneer missionaries in Alaska, would be snatched from the Church. We must go ahead and trust to Providence for the help we need. *As the cost of all materials are*  
*double in Alaska by reason of <sup>great</sup> distances and poor transportation*  
*facilities each chapel represents the outlay of about \$2,000.*