

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Keefer, Harriet H.

Letters of Harriet H. Keefer, an Episcopal Missionary at Fort Yukon and Shageluk, Alaska, to Anne McLellan, Portland, Maine, 1954-1959

MS 4-11-13

ACQUISITION: These letters donated by Martial Mailing of Portland, Maine were received through the Maine Historical Society in 1971.

ACCESS: The collection is available for viewing; however, photographs may not be photocopied.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Harriet H. Keefer, an Episcopalian Missionary at Fort Yukon, worked at the Hudson Stuck Memorial Hospital and assisted at St. Luke's Mission, Shageluk.

SCOPE NOTES

Letters of an Episcopal Missionary at Fort Yukon and Shageluk, Alaska, 1954-1959, to Anne McLellan, Portland, Maine. The letters provide information on Alaska activities and assistance received from Anne McLellan.

INVENTORY

1. Letter, dated 18 June 1954, Fort Yukon 4
Mentions river boat bringing in supplies and her work as a nurse at Hudson Stuck Memorial Hospital, Fort Yukon.
2. Letter, dated 18 Nov. 1955, Shageluk, Alaska 2
Describes the village of Shageluk and her work at St. Luke's Mission.
3. Letter, dated 8 Feb. 1956, Shageluk, Alaska 4
"Peter", one of the oldest natives in Shageluk, died and describes funeral ceremonies and dances held at Kasheim where his body laid for four nights.
4. Letter, dated 4 June 1956, Fort Yukon, 1
Mentions nursing staff at hospital and describes flooding of the Yukon which covered most of lower town and came within 5 feet of hospital door. The Air Force bombed the ice jam.
5. Letter, dated 19 March, 1959, Fort Yukon I
Thanking Ann for providing layette supplies and need for used baby clothes.
6. Letter, dated June 1959, Fort Yukon 1 (mimeo).
Newsletter to friends and family. Doctor Jones has left so medical care is Harriet's responsibility with direction from Dr. Gaede, the Alaska Native Health Service physician at Tanana, 200 miles away.