Guide to Collection

Yaw, W. Leslie (William Leslie), 1900-

Leslie Yaw Papers, 1949-1987

MS 4-39-4

1 folder
Correspondence, Reports, Newspapers,
1 photograph

Processed by: Sara Bornstein, Nov. 2012

ACQUISITION: Nancy Ricketts donated this collection of papers relating to Leslie (Les) Yaw. The papers were originally obtained from Helen Yaw Finney, daughter of Les Yaw. Accession #2012-045.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

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PROCESSING: This collection has been arranged chronologically.
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Leslie Yaw was appointed superintendent of Sheldon Jackson School in 1930 and appointed superintendent of Sitka Pioneers’ Home in 1954. When the running of the Pioneers Home was turned over from the Board of Trustees to the Alaska Governor’s Office, Yaw was replaced with a person appointed by the Governor.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The majority of the papers in this folder document three subjects, the first is Leslie Yaw’s removal from his position at the Sitka Pioneers Home.

The second, the objections of the Sitka Pioneers Home staff to Bill #74. This bill was introduced to double the stipend the Pioneers living in the home receive each month. The staff objected on the basis that certain Pioneers used their entire stipend each month to buy alcohol which then caused hardship to the staff and other Pioneers of the home.

The third is the publishing of Henry Roden’s biography. Henry Roden was the Territorial Treasurer. Leslie and Betty Yaw corresponded with Pat Rotter over Henry Roden’s Biography. Roden was also a friend of Yaw.

SUBJECTS

Sitka Pioneers Home, Leslie Yaw, Henry Roden

INVENTORY

Photograph:
Sitka Pioneer Home in old Marine Barracks Pre 1923

[Short history of Pioneers Home]

[Excerpt from] Sixty Years in Sitka: My Service with the Pioneers’ Home, pgs. 104-106

“My Life in Alaska” by Emil Pozza

October 28, 1949
Letter from Henry Roden to Leslie Yaw regarding the unveiling of the “Prospector” statue in Sitka

September 12, 1952
Letter from Henry Roden, Territorial Treasurer, regarding Sheldon Jackson Junior College
February 28, 1955  
Photocopy of Charles Klemola’s Agreement to turn over Social Security income to the Pioneers Home if admitted. (3 copies)

May 6, 1955  
The Nome Nugget Article: “Rube” Cremer Writes from Pioneer Home

Bill #74 Correspondence:  
March 13-14, 1957  2 letters from staff of the Pioneers Home objecting to Bill #74  
July 1, 1957 – September 30, 1958  Operations Cost of the Alaska Pioneers Home for

1957 Annual Governor’s Report  
July 8, 1957 Letter from Governor Mike Stepovich to Mr. Leslie Yaw  
Requesting material for annual report  
August 8, 1957 Response to request  
Copy of final Annual Report Pioneers’ Home section

October 1, 1958  
The History of the Pioneers Home by Henry Roden (2 copies)

January 15, 1959  
Daily Sitka Sentinel Article: “Pioneers Home ranks as first-class institution”

February 24, 1959  
Letter from Jim Williams to Les regarding trying to help Les keep his position.

Bill #74 Correspondence:  
February 4 [1959]  Nurses Record of drunk patients with letter explaining Record  
February 24-26, and March 14, 1959  
6 letters from staff of the Pioneers Home to elected officials objecting to Bill #74. The letters state that certain residents use the money for alcohol which leads to abuse of waitresses and other residents, more work for the janitors, and economic issues concerning cleaning supplies.

April 22 & 30, 1959  
Correspondence:  
Two (2) letters from Leslie Yaw to Henry Roden regarding a sick Pioneer, a death of a Pioneer, and Leslie’s own removal from his position.

April 26, 1959  
Letter from “Charlie” to Leslie Yaw thanking him for his work

3 letters relating to the deed of the Sitka Pioneers Home being turned over from the Board of Trustees to the Governor’s Office  
May 27, 1959  Letter from Charles W. Carter to Board of Trustees  
May 22, 1959  Letter from Thomas G. Mooney, Director to Charles W. Carter, Secretary

May 7, 1959  Letter from Floyd Guertin, Commissioner of Administration to Charles W. Carter, Secretary

February 23, 1973
Letter from Leslie Yaw to Amos regarding nicknames of Pioneers in the Home
Attached list: Nicknames of Guests at the Pioneers Home (about 1956)

**Henry Roden biography material:**

*Juneau Alaska Empire, Monday June 13, 1966*
Article: The Life and Times of Henry Roden, Pioneer Miner, Lawyer, Legislator
2 photocopies of article

3 letters: Correspondence from R. N. DeArmond to Leslie Yaw regarding writing a biography of Henry Roden

October 6, 1986 letter from Leslie Yaw to Pat Rotter and attached 10/18/86 response from Pat Rotter

11/2/1986 Letter from Pat Rotter to Les and Betty Yaw responding to Les’ letter about contacts

November 16, 1986 letter from Les Yaw to Pat Rotter providing contacts with information about Roden

11/20/1986 Card to Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Tyler Yaw from Mrs. J. Rother regarding Henry Roden

12/29/1986 Card to Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Tyler Yaw from Mrs. J. Rother regarding “Sixty Years in Sitka” Book

4-27-87 Letter to Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Tyler Yaw from Mrs. J. Rother regarding writing a biography of Henry Roden

May 11, 1987 letter from Les Yaw to Pat Rotter regarding a possible meeting in Juneau to discuss writing a book about Roden

*Juneau Roden Breakfast 5/26/1987 Meeting Notes*
Includes names and addresses of attendees and subjects discussed

Henry Roden statement on yellow legal paper (3 pages)

**Newspapers:** [Discarded]

- September 21, 1956 Daily Sitka Sentinel
- October 19, 1956 Daily Sitka Sentinel
- October 23, 1956 Daily Sitka Sentinel
- February 8, 1957 Daily Sitka Sentinel