

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1921

MISSIONARY LIFE IN BAFFIN LAND

Clergyman is Cook and Baker, as Well as Pastor—Mails are a Luxury.

(Montreal Gazette.)
A glimpse of missionary life among the Eskimos in the northern solitudes of Baffin Land is afforded in letters which have just been received by the Rev. Rural Dean Lackey of Lachute from his son, Rev. A. Osborne Lackey, who left Lachute in July of this year for that destination. The three letters all came together by the steamer Nascopie, which was in port here in the summer. The Nascopie returned from Hudson Bay to St. John's, Newfoundland, and the letters were mailed at the latter port. Mr. Lackey is apparently well trained in practical as well as theoretical matters, for he is chief cook and bread-baker, and states that, thanks to the bread-mixer and recipes given him by Lachute friends, he has had considerable success in the culinary department. He has in training two little native girls of ten and twelve years of age, who are rapidly becoming domesticated. The two missionaries, Mr. Lackey and the Rev. Mr. Atkinson, recently gave a birthday feast, as both their anniversaries fell near each other, and at this function the guests were the men of the Hudson Bay Company. The menu included soup, potatoes, roast venison, peas, pie and jelly.
Christmas and New Year greetings had to be thought of well in advance, and were sent in a letter dated October 2; in fact, there will be no further chance of outgoing mail until next August or September.
At the time of writing, there was not a white woman in the settlement, but Mr. Lackey's wife is at present in Scotland, and the factor of the Hudson Bay Company expects his bride with the missionaries' wives next summer. Another bride of one of the company's men



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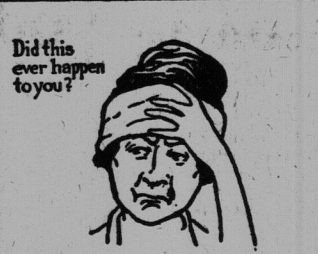
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is also expected, while another man was counting on his wife coming across the ocean at the same time.
Catch Is Divided.
A part of one of the letters reads: "This is the life; right back to Nature, away from the sham, the artificialities, the shallowness of so-called civilized society. Talk about Christianity; we find more real Christianity among these poor Eskimos than among many so-called Christians. If they catch two fish, we get one; if they catch a seal, everybody gets a piece." It is added that the natives almost worship the missionaries and do everything in their power to make them comfortable.
The last letter is dated November 14. The Nascopie was so late in reaching Lake Harbor that the two missionaries had abandoned hope of her arrival, as Mr. Lackey had gone on a hunting trip with some Eskimos. On returning after some days' absence, he saw, from the top of a hill, the ship in the harbor, whereupon he made a sprint for the mission house, and, though he had not tasted food for several hours, he did not touch it until he had read all of his thirty-six letters.
When he wrote his last letter, the Rev. Mr. Lackey was about to leave with a band of Eskimos for the winter hunt at

a point about 180 miles from the mission house. Rev. Mr. Atkinson was to accompany another band 200 miles in another direction. They will live in snow houses, adapting themselves to native customs, and they will not hear a word



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of English spoken all the winter. In this way they hope to quickly acquire the Eskimo language.

MAID WAS GAGGED.
Three Men Entered House and Stole Jewels.

Toronto, Dec. 10.—Laura Anderson, aged twenty-seven, a maid employed at the house of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Smith, 340 Sunnyside avenue, was seized by three men in Mr. Smith's home, at ten o'clock Monday morning, was tied up and gagged, the men then robbing the house of \$1,000 worth of jewelry. The girl was alone in the house when the robbers entered. Two men were arrested in connection with the affair.

A RECEPTION TO
HON. W. S. FIELDING
BY THE LIBERALS

Former Premier Desires Sympathy Rather Than Congratulations—Canada Has Stupendous Problems to Solve.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
Halifax, Dec. 9.—In the House of Assembly, which knew him as provincial premier over twenty-five years ago, Hon. W. S. Fielding, member-elect for St. John's-Queens, was tonight given an enthusiastic reception by members of the provincial government, men and women electors of Halifax, and Liberal stalwarts from various parts of Nova Scotia. Premier G. E. Murray, in calling upon Mr. Fielding for a speech, said the eyes of all Canada had rested upon him during the election campaign, and his victory was a great thing for the whole country.
Mr. Fielding, after dwelling on the greatness of the Liberal victory in the east, said the task before the new government called for sympathy rather than congratulations. He doubted if in any country with so small a population there were such stupendous problems to solve. Under the best of conditions Canada had the problems of settlement, racial and religious differences, and every problem was accentuated by the gravity of the present situation. It would be necessary for the people to support the government in a policy of retrenchment to help keep the country from bankruptcy.

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