HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT) 1/15

March 24th 1945

Rev. Olivia C. Lindsay,
16 Parkway Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Miss Lindsay:

I must apologise for the long delay in acknowledging your letter of February 26th. Pressure of work since about mid January has been such that my correspondence has been very much neglected. At the present moment, all I can do is to thank you for writing at such length giving useful information, and for your continued interest in your former field of Lillooet. I have been in touch with Mr. Stobie, who is doing all he can to keep in contact with the work there. Until we meet in Settlement Committee at Conference, there is no way of knowing if a minister will be available for Lillooet as from July 1st.

I trust that your own health is being well maintained, and the release from responsibility is having its healing effects.

With kindest regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

PB/AM

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HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)

16 Parkway Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.,
Feb. 26, 1945.

Rev. W. P. Bunt
Supt. Home Missions B.C.
807 Dominion Bank Bldg., Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt, -

You will probably have heard from Rev. H. Yoshioka about his recent visit to the Lillooet district. The descriptive adjectives he used on a card to me 'exhausting' and 'happy' I thought could also have been applied to many of your trips - and mine too.

As some of the friends in the district have been inquiring about future plans I thought I had better consult you. I think I wrote you that until the end of 1944 I supplied the five Japanese communities with Sunday School helps and from January of this year the Sunday School in the Home by Air and Mail of our U.C.C. has been sending the material according to the numbers I sent in. The only Sunday School in the district except that of the Lillooet United Church, which Miss H. Eggie and three other teachers are carrying on, now functioning is that at Bridge River near Shalalth which Mrs. W. Stevens and Miss Reiko Nishio are teaching.

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I am having 25 papers sent here for the children. The hard part is that Mrs. Stevens expects to move to Vancouver in the spring and I do not know anyone who might take her place. Mrs. Williams might, however, if I asked her. You remember that both white, Japanese and some Indian (or mixed) children attend that school which is held in the community Hall. Mrs. Stevens said next time Mr. Stobie goes to Lillooet he will probably hold service at Bridge River and speak to the children. While Mrs. Stevens is an Anglican she willingly has helped in the Sunday School for over a year and she uses our U.C.C. helps. The Nishios are U.C.C. people.

If I may offer a suggestion, I hope that the minister who goes to Lillooet will have time for the Japanese Sunday Schools and for the white people who are members or adherents of the U.C.C. in the Bridge River - Shalalth - Seton Lake area. Ideally one of our W.M.S. women should be appointed to the district for the Japanese work, for it looks as if the Japanese that live near Lillooet and have made a success at tomato growing will be there permanently. You may know a couple of canneries and two or three packing houses are to operate at Lillooet next year, so the population in that part is bound to increase. I hope you will urge that besides making provision for

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the definitely ministerial work in the district, both among whites and Japanese, the women's and children's work can be arranged for. If I were only sure of my health I would gladly volunteer to help, and there is nothing I would like better than make a business tour of the district. Mrs. Loveys is really not taking any initiative to supply the W.M.S. phase of the work and unless the appeal comes from you I fear an important part of the work of the district will be neglected.

Pardon me if I appear to be over anxious about my former parish but when I receive letters from the grown-folk and children I feel that we should carry on and assure the people that the United Church is not dropping them.

Those who attended the Sunday morning service, S.S. and church combined, at Lillooet when Rev. Jas. Stobie was there last Dec. 31st appreciated his coming and they consulted with him as to the possibility of having periodical services in the future.

Any information you may care to share with me may help to keep up the courage and hopes of the earnest Christians in the Lillooet district.

Very sincerely,
Olivia E. Lindsay.

HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNTY)
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16 Parkway Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.,
Nov. 16, '44.

Rev. W. P. Bunt,
Supt. of Home Missions
807 Dominion Bank Bldg.
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt, -

This is to acknowledge with thanks your letter of Oct. 27th from Fernie. I am very glad the New Hanover Conference was so satisfactory and am hoping to receive the official report which Mr. Kanegawa said would be sent to me.

Re getting my belongings moved from the Manse at Lillooet, Miss Dorothy Eggie, Sec.-Treas. of the Sunday School, and other friends were very kind in sorting things out and shipping what I wanted. Other things are being sold for the Sunday School and Red Cross, while a number of things I donated to the Manse. As Miss Bird had told me there was a scarcity of Japanese hymn-books and Bibles in the district, I asked to have some of them sent here. Others will be used at different Lillooet centres, mainly E. Lillooet, and Mr. Yasuura will be responsible for the organ and books left at E. Lillooet.

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Either Mrs. A. M. Young or Mrs. John Reid, who has returned to Lillooet, could be consulted about the Lillooet white work. Mrs. John Reid is President of the women's Guild and also teaches the beginners' class in Sunday School. I think I wrote you that I asked Miss Dorothy Eggie to re-open the Sunday School in September and she is bravely carrying on with her two co-workers.

You will be pleased to know that Mrs. W. Stevens and Miss Reiko Nishio are carrying on the Sunday School - Japanese and white children - at Bridge River, near Shalalth. At Lillooet on account of sickness, removals, etc., I have not heard whether it has been possible to reopen the Sunday School as yet, but I keep all the Sunday Schools, except the Lillooet (white) S.S. which is self-supporting supplied with papers. I presume until some one is sent to look after the flocks in the Lillooet district you will approve my helping out by correspondence as best I can.

On account of a great many removals from the Lillooet district during the past year it is going to be difficult for me to submit an accurate statistical report for 1944. If the Mint work could be definitely assigned to Mrs. Jas. Stobie he could from 1944 include it in his report. In fact that might apply to the whole Lillooet district if he could undertake it. According

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to a letter from Miss Uchida, dated Oct. 9th, Mrs. Stobie had not visited Minto since the summer vacation. Both he and Mrs. Stobie did good work in Minto but I realize that with the exodus of the Olsin and Meiya. moto families to Winnipeg the Christian group there might easily lose heart. If Mrs. Stobie would consent to hold services at Lillooet once a month & think the church people there should be at least responsible for his travel and entertainment. The trouble is that in the church work in Lillooet, as in Board of Trade, etc., it is very difficult to get people to shoulder a load together, but we must hope for the best.

Re renting the manse, I shall mention the point you referred to in writing Mrs. Young next time. Naturally in case of any agreement being made your approval would be asked.

If you wish me to be of any service by correspondence please do not hesitate to use me. May God bless you abundantly in your great work.

Very sincerely,
Olivia C. Lindsay.

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December 1st 1944

Rev. Miss Clivia C. Lindsay,
16 Parkway Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Miss Lindsay:

Many thanks for your letter of the 16th November, in which such complete information regarding the disposal of the situation at Lillooet was given. I read the letter to the meeting of our special Japanese Committee when it met last week.

The Committee approved, and so has Dr. Dorey, of having Mr. Yoshioka make a trip into the Lillooet area as early in the new year as he can go, and I am going to suggest to him that he write you prior to making the trip for any helpful suggestions which you might have to offer. When he is able to give you the approximate date of his going in, you might, by correspondence, be able to prepare the way for him, and I am sure that this would be appreciated.

I am enclosing a copy of the Minutes of our Conference meeting at New Denver, believing that you might be interested in seeing what was done at that gathering.

I trust that your own health is steadily improving and that you may have many years of useful service still ahead of you.

With kind regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM
Enc.1

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16 Parkway Ave.,
(*new address) Toronto, Ont.,
Sept. 28, 1944.

Rev. W. P. Bunt,
Supt. of Home Missions
807 Dominion Bank Bldg.
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt, –

Thank you for your kind letter of the 20th inst. I had hoped I might be allowed to take a trip to B.C. to attend the Conference of Japanese workers and to look after my packing at Lillooet but it seemed wiser not to attempt such a long trip at this time.

It is with deep regret that I have to give up any thought of returning to the work in B.C. which is very dear to my heart, especially the shepherding of the scattered lonely people among the mountains, but since I shall have to be under a medical specialist's care for some years my work in the future will probably be in or near Toronto. Actually I am feeling well and am enjoying life to the full, though not quite ready

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said he would [illegible] and

for deputation work.

Now for business, would you like me to give
my successor at the manse first option on a number of household furnishings - chairs, radio, electric hotplate, kitchen mat utensils and garden tools, also wood - or would it be better for me to have them all disposed of in October when I am having the things I especially need shipped to me? Unless I hear from you shortly I shall take it for granted you consider it better for me to clear the manse of all my belongings. In conversation with Mrs. Lovejoy it seemed better for me to vacate the manse by the end of October, have electricity turned off, etc., and everything left so that a successor or a tenant could start anew. However, if a minister or Home. worker should be available to occupy the manse it would be very convenient for the person or persons to take over a number of my things, even canned fruit, etc.

As for the United Church at Lillooet, the numbers who get out to regular service are few but if they all could attend at once there is a nice little group. Mrs. Young has been doing a man's job at the station but as acting Treasurer still signs all cheques. Mr. John Reid is back in Lillooet and said he would keep an eye on church property during the summer. Mr. E. R. Paterson kindly

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said he would look after getting the fence around the church fixed - some posts have to be replaced - and Mr. Jones, the milkman, a good friend of mine, generously offered to donate the posts for fence. Mrs. (Artie) Blair kindly promised to put colored glass panes in the church (4) to replace those that had been patched up with window-glass. We have new window glass to replace the old paper and it is all ready to be put on when some one can be found to do it.

Miss Dorothy Eggie, Mrs. John Reid and Miss Hazel Withers are bravely carrying on the Sunday School and two teachers are needed to replace Miss Marjory Lovett, the bank girl who recently left, and myself.

If Mr. Stobie could be spared from Pioneer and Bralorne to come to Lillooet, even once a month, the church services could be cared for in a way. As you know, some of the church people would prefer monthly to weekly services.

As you may imagine, since a number of the leading Christians in the Lillooet district have moved East, the Japanese work has become more and more difficult (to speak the Sunday Schools satisfactorily) and more and more necessary for a missionary to be present to continually

Very sincerely, Olive E. Simmons.

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reorganize the work, keep the Sunday Schools supplied with literature and look after the scattered groups. Pardon my bad construction. In case a resident missionary cannot be secured this year, I should like very much if Rev. K. Shimizu or some other Japanese pastor could be allowed to visit the Lillooet district for definitely evangelistic work and for general meetings to encourage and help the people. At least two days should be allowed for each of the centres: East Lillooet, Bridge River, McGillivray Falls (if still carrying on), Minto and Taylor Lake and Hyrigle.

If you would like me to write any suggestions as to details in regard to such a trip I shall gladly do so, eg., persons to correspond with, type of meetings suitable for each place, list of U.C. members and adherents, no. and type of hymn books and literature to take. If such a trip were properly planned and arranged for, I think collections and donations at the various appointments would probably cover travel expense.

Finally, shall I make out my statistical report for the U.C. Year Book for the half year Jan. - June 1944 and send it to you, or how shall we manage to make up the report for this year? Mrs. Young and Miss Eggie could give the Lillooet financial statements for Church and Sunday School.

Very sincerely, Olivia C. Lindsay.

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October 4th 1944

Rev. O.C.Lindsay, M.A.,S.T.M.,
16 Parkway Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Miss Lindsay:

Your letter of the 28th inst., reached the office just after Mr. Bunt had left the city, so I am acknowledging its receipt meantime, and when he gets back on Friday, it will be before him and have his attention.

With best wishes and trusting that your health will continue to improve,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Office Secretary.

AM

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HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)

16 Parkway Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.,
Oct. 8, 44.

Rev. W. P. Bunt,
Supt. Home Missions, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt, -

Pardon my apparent fickleness re attendance at the Conference of Japanese workers. What really led to the decision to give up my plan of going west was Miss. Lovejoy's advice. She thought the trip might be too much for me at this stage. After receiving your last letter, I wrote Mary McLachlan to be good enough to lead in the closing service.

As Miss. Lovejoy has probably written you, it seems advisable that I should not plan to return to Lillooet even after my year of furlough. Much as I enjoyed the work of the frontier district, I think it is wiser for me to continue to be under my doctor's specialist's care. Accordingly, I am hoping to have my packing done by friends in Lillooet and things cleared up at the manse by the end of this month. I shall probably soon hear from you as to what you would like left for my successor.

Re coming New Hazelton Conference, Miss. Campbell of Vancouver asked me to send in any suggestions that I might wish to make and so I shall get

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HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)

May 20th 1942

Rev. Olivia C. Lindsay,
Mission City, B. C.

Dear Miss Lindsay,

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the letter which I have written to Mr. John Reid of Lillooet, and I think that no further introduction is really necessary. I think you will find Mr. Reid a dependable person and one who will rally the United Church people under your leadership.

For your own information I might add that when we last had a minister settled in Lillooet, the congregation gave $200.00 a year toward his support, and while it is unlikely that they can do that now, after two years of disorganization, yet I think they ought to be able to start at $100.00 a year at any rate. This will be a matter that you can take up with them when the time seems ripe.

I hope that you will enjoy the work among the Japanese and Canadians and that you will find a satisfactory response. If at any time I can be of any help I should be glad to know, even although I have no jurisdiction over you. If the little manse needs some repairs, as it likely will, I would think that Mr. Reid would be the man to look after putting it in shape.

With kind regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

1/15

May 20th 1942

Mr. John Reid,
Lillooet, B.C.

Dear Mr. Reid,

Owing to the large number of Japanese who are moving into the Bridge River and Lillooet area, the Woman's Missionary Society of the United Church of Canada, has appointed Rev. Olivia C.Lindsay, to take charge of Christian work among these people.

Miss Lindsay is an experienced worker and should prove of great benefit to not only the Japanese, but other United Church people in that area. Owing to the great shortage of ministers, the Woman's Missionary Society has agreed to have Miss Lindsay look after our work in Lillooet, which for a couple of years has been very disorganized. I have therefore given my consent to Miss Lindsay occupying the little manse in Lillooet and using the church for her work, and I have asked her to get in touch with you upon her arrival in Lillooet, which I think will be within the next few days.

I trust that you will give her every assistance and that our United Church people in Lillooet will rally again and co-operate with Miss Lindsay in every way.

With kindest regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

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May 21st 1942

Rev. J.A.Cormie, D.D.,
441 Somerset Building,
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Dr. Cormie,

This will introduce to you, Mr. S. Sato, who was a member of our Japanese congregation at Steveston, B.C. He was one of the officials of the Board of that congregation, and a very fine and active Christian layman. I understand that he is to live at Headingly, Man., and if you could help him to make connection with out nearest minister, he would greatly appreciate it. Recently he has been in Vancouver, to attend the funeral of his father, but I understand that his family has been at Headingly for some little time.

I am sure you do your utmost to extend the hand of Christian fellowship to him.

With kind regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

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June 22nd 1942

Bishop Sir Francis Heathcote,
Synod Office, Diocese of New Westminster,
198 Hastings Street W.,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Bishop Heathcote,

After returning from the informal conference which we had in your office on the 12th inst., I made a memorandum of our conversation, and I submit herewith a copy which I trust you will find to be in accordance with what took place.

In view of the possibility of further discussions regarding our respective responsibilities and undertakings, I thought it well to have such a memorandum.

I beg to remain,

Yours most sincerely,

Superintendent of Home Missions.

WPB/AM

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May 29th 1942

Rev. W.T. Atchison,
Cornwall, Ont.

Dear Mr. Atchison,

This will introduce to you, Mr and Mrs.S. Nose, and their son Roy, all of whom are members in good standing of the Powell Street Japanese Congregation of the United Church of Canada. They have been very active in the work of the church. Mr. Nose has been a member of the Official Board and also prominent in the activities of the men's club. Roy, who is twenty-one, and a graduate of the University of British Columbia, was treasurer of their junior church, which I think was an organization unique in our whole United Church of Canada. I would like to commend them to the Christian fellowship of you and your people, with the request that you give them whatever assistance you can in the way of counsel and suggestions as to how they may fit in to life in their new surroundings.

I beg to remain,

Most sincerely yours,

WPB/AM

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