

Correspondence File

1916. Jan 28. g, t x a' ta. Tells how he chartered a boat at Simpson Jan 17, set out for g, t x a' ta. Met Chief S E K S boat, disabled, with 5 people aboard, towed it. Storm broke, motor was swamped, drifted all night in zero cold. Tied up on steep sides of Stephens Island. Lost all personal effects and money. Stayed on island 10 days, eight of them. No loss of life. Felt shaky but starting work on Monday.
- Feb 6. g, t x a' ta. Working, but feeling shaky from exposure and informants are coming to house where he stays. Difficulty over informants fees.
- Feb 18. Running out of money. On 5th volume. Having to pay informants 60¢ an hour.
- April 8. Balmoral. Sending 4 volumes, holding 2 for further work with Dan Haldane. Was quarantined a month (measles) so was late reporting to BC Packers. "I have gone about the work as thoroughly as I could and adopted the same lines as you adopted when at St. Simpson, and have taken every house in order of rank." At \$25 per book he won't make anything on the season's work, partly because of shipwreck at start. Wanted to work with g, t s a l a s and g, t k s a n at cannery. Enclosed bill for 4 - \$100.00
- May 30. Balmoral. Been busy all summer.
- Sept 4. St. Simpson. Sending Vol V. Sick during summer and had to leave job.
- Oct 30, 1929 Chambers St, Victoria. Sending Vol VI. Had to leave his job because of ill health, but now improving "Will you need my services in near future?"

1915. Barbeau received authorization Dec. 10 to employ Beynon for 3 or 4 months study of g. t. x. a. t. Rate 50¢ per page, total not to exceed \$500. \$100 advance.

Dec. 13. Barbeau to Beynon: Glad he accepts, and stating details. No arrangement can be made for specimens. Directions re work:

"I may say in a word that the work is to be entirely along the same lines as that which you carried on with me last winter at Port Simpson. You may first study the outlines of the tribe, its geographic position on the map, its former stations, hunting grounds, territory; the royal and councillors' families, the individual names and translations, the crests, and the related myths; and the origins of families and their foreign relatives; as well as the former position of the tribe."

"In case you might exhaust the information along the lines suggested, then you might get as much information as you can on potlatches, secret societies and their origin, the rituals connected with the gathering of fruits ~~and~~ ^{and} first animals or fish caught in the season. You might also get some information on the ~~of~~ ^{of} Eldestau or the Gilgata."

We would like to use your services from year to year if possible

1917 St Simpson. Had been ill in Victoria. Better now.
Hadt't got 50.00 and needed money

1918 St Simpson March 19 (Simpson now has typewriter)
Learning new things every day, and sending
accounts in letters. Asks for plates for his
camera. Many of your informants are dead:
Ed Simpson, Clark, my grandfather, and another
old lady. Old Man Wallace got married and he
looks younger than ever, and old chief Nelson,
who was very peeved that he did not give more
information than Wallace is very low, he is
probably the oldest man in the village.
Some Kitkatha informants are dead also.

I am at present employed by 'Burroughs,
Wellcome Co', carrying on researches on different
lines to yours, and also purchasing specimens
for their museums. I am on a yearly salary.
They have given me a rather large field to work
in the whole of the province and Alaska as well.

There are good Chilkat blankets for 30 or 40
dollars and he is turning them down

I am reading the other notes I have taken under
separate cover - - -

I have been able to get the full confidence of
the people by rendering them what assistance I
can as a sort of secretary for if you
do not have their confidence at the start, you
cannot get all the information wanted

Mr Henry Tate . . . did not have the full confidence
of all his informants . . . not money to pay them
In spite of that he seems to have done well.

Could you send me any of Steffanson's books
on the Eskimos . . . I am trying to read all the
reports on native works I can lay my hands on . . .

Notes

1922

(1)

Aug 28 Pt Simpson Sending a volume of notes, on
Zum, Harda, Hazelton etc.

Tells of a big collection he purchased for Mr.
Wellcome, a valuable one, from Chilkat to watske.
and speaks of more fine specimens available.

On Kargani Harda.

I spoke to a Kasaan Harda about it (canoe
picture writing at Cape Chacon) but he was inclined
to think that it was the work of the Hardas
themselves when they first migrated over from
Queen Charlotte Islands. They separated and the
Eagles went to the east, the Wolves and the raven
people went on to the west side of the island. The
Guzzly being related to the Eagle clan followed them
to Kasaan and not very long after this there
was another migration of Hardas to this new land.

The Hardas of Prince of Wales Island are of recent
origin, in fact I would think that they came over
there while trading with the old Siberian traders,
as it was commonly mentioned on the paddle songs
of the long trip from North Island to Sitka. And
the common ground for hunting of the sea otter
was off the Aleutian Islands, so that more for
convenience sake they settled on Prince of Wales
Island driving out the Iinkits and taking
their old villages from them. Every Harda
village with the exception of Hydaburg is
called by a Iinkit name.

- 1929 Pt Simpson Nov 11. I am forwarding one note book
 ① recorded here but much deals with the Puget.
- 1947 Barbeau acknowledges 3 notebooks Dec. 30
 ③
- 1948 Feb 2 Byrnon sends GG HH II JJ
 Barbeau submits bill for 4 more @ \$35 Feb 12
 ④
- ③ Mar 23 . 3 more KK LL MM
- ② Nov 8 Byrnon sends 2 more NN and OO 1948-9.
 Port Edward.
 Paid Nov 30
1949. Jan 19. Barbeau acknowledges 2 more PP OO
 ②
- ② Mar 26 " " " " RR SS
- ② Then 2 more this morning TT UU
- May 13 Payment sent Byrnon for 4.
- ②? Oct 5. Mentions last 2 vols not paid yet [rv ww]
- Nov 30 Byrnon sends 2.
 1950 Dec 14 Barbeau acknowledges 2 XX YY
 ②
- 1951 Feb 5. Pt Edward. Byrnon sends A1, A2 1951
 ② Is under compensation board for an accident.
 Will go to Hartly Bay as soon as possible
- 1952 March 3. Sends A3 and A4
 ② Explains the large celebration which was just
 about to take place at gitsogukla when an
 auto accident killed one man and resulted in
 the arrests of others, and it was cancelled.

1952

April 3. Beynon outlined a book he has in mind about Metlakatla, which is shortly to become enfranchised, and has always been "the hub upon which the Tsimshian wheel revolved"

'First it being centred as the birth place of t x e m s o m, then the various migrations from here of various groups to the Nass, down to the time when at the height of its strength came the white traders, then Wm Duncan. . . . (and his) . . . reestablishment of the present Metlakatla on an entirely different social standard, a complete breakdown of the old social organization and then their migration to Alaska.

June 24 ^{Sent May 20.} Barbeau acknowledges 4 books (3 in a series on Metlakatla and one general).

④

July 7. 2 vols sent IV and V 1952
July 15. Barbeau acknowledges 2 more

②

Aug 29. Beynon promises to send 4 more in a few days, completing his summer's work.

④

Sept 12 - sending 4 vols VI, VII, VIII, IX 1952

1953

②

Jan 19 Two more X, XI, 1952

Dec 21. Barbeau refers to 3 recent books ?

1954

②

Jan 25 Beynon sends 2. VI 1953 I 1954

③

Mar 22 Beynon sends 3 II, III, IV 1954
Patalas and Mrs Anne Robinson of Gitga'ans died

- 1954 April 7 St Edward -
② Oct 4 Reading Vol IX, X
Olson was there investigating Team-Thing relations
- 1955 Feb 25. Beynon had had to go to hospital because of high blood pressure in December, and was still under the doctor's care and ordered to restrict his activities for a couple of months.
- 1956 Aug 9 Beynon writes he has been in and out of hospital with heart trouble.
- 1956 Sept. Barbeau ackn. 1 book. Vol I 1956
- 1957 Nov 27 Barbeau writes and says Wilson Duff told him of your temporary incapacity.