

GILBERT D. HEDDEN

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Mr. R. V. Harris:

I am sorry not to have answered your letter before now but events have been shaping and I was forced to wait for something definite. I am deeply disappointed but find that I shall be unable to visit Nova Scotia this year as I have just received an appointment with the materials section of the War Department and will be leaving for Washington tomorrow. I shall be stationed there for several months and will then be almost anywhere on field work so my suggestion is that when you write to me, address the letter to the old address as given below and it will then be forwarded to me by the family.

You spoke of an accounting that you were preparing and I should like to have it for my files when completed though I will be unable to discuss it with you in person. If there is any balance I can only ask that you continue to apply it toward the taxes and if it is used up wholly, let me know the amount of tax when you get the bills and I shall try to forward the necessary amount to you. If anyone works there another year it might be a suggestion to charge the taxes as a sort of rental but we have gone along so far with Hamilton that I hesitate to suggest it now. While I shall write to Blair as soon as I have the opportunity it may be some time off and I would appreciate it very much if you will advise him that I will not be up to see him this year. If he is impatient I can only say that the procedure for next year is always subject to discussion for I have no way of knowing whether Hamilton will go in again or not. I have had only two sketchy reports from him this year and know little of what he is doing. I knew his plans in some detail before he left and believe he is following them as outlined but do not know what, if anything, he has accomplished.

If Hamilton signifies that he does not intend to continue I will very naturally be open to any suggestions and will have to leave it up to you and Blair to keep in touch with me and we can try to arrive at some agreement satisfactory to all.

Many thanks for your suggestions on getting a job up there. I fully intended to try them if I got that far. This appointment I have is under the Civil Service Commission and should be a good opportunity as well as being in a line of work with which I was once very familiar. It will necessitate my being away from home for a long time, possibly for the duration of the emergency, but will be work which I like and for which I am adapted. The ownership of the island will definitely remain in my hands for I shall not consider selling it and will continue with my researches there when the opportunity is again open. As I shall be in Washington for several months it occurs to me that there might be an occasion to do something for you while I am there. If the occasion should arise do not hesitate to write me via the family and I shall try to assist you in any way I can. You and your people are doing a marvelous job and I hope it will not be overly long before we down here can back you even more than we have so far. The best of luck to you all. I shall see you again sometime but do not know just when at present. Let me hear from you when you can.

Sincerely

Gilbert D. Hedden

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