

POPULATION IS DECREASING

Natives in Aleutian Chain of Islands Are Rapidly Dying Off.

EPIDEMIC OF MEASLES AMONG ALASKANS

Disease Causes Death of Many Hundreds of Indians Who Are Crowded Together in Small Mud Huts.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—The rapid decline of the native population of the Aleutian chain of islands is told in a report just received by the marine hospital service from F. J. Thornbury at Dutch Harbor, Alaska. The report says that formerly there were 120 villages on the islands, with a native population variously estimated at from 1,500 to 2,000 in the same districts. There are now only ten villages and 1,000 inhabitants, exclusive of whites, of whom 300 are creoles (mixed breeds with Russians and other nationalities) and 700 Alutes.

The report says: "Last year Unalaska had 333 inhabitants, 116 or nearly one-third of whom died. According to data obtained from the Russian priest of the Greek Catholic church, Rev. B. P. Kasherov, who has the only mortality records kept in the village, there being no health officer or even physicians, thirty deaths were ascribed to 'cold,' twenty-four to consumption, thirty-three to measles and seven to old age, and five were drowned.

"The remarkable mortality from measles among the natives in Alaska during the last year appears ascribable largely to the lack of sanitary environments and lack of precaution against exposure.

"On the Kuskoquim and in other sections on the mainland from one-half to two-thirds of the natives died and many were left unburied in the mud houses where they lived, surviving members immediately deserting the huts which often contained from one to two dozen natives living regardless of family relations.

"As many as half a dozen dead bodies have been seen by prospectors in a single hole and numerous dead bodies were seen lying about on the ground partly eaten by the foxes.

"There are numerous instances of whole villages being deserted, the few surviving natives having a superstition about staying where so many of their number had died."

WILL HAVE LITTLE EFFECT

Consumers in Nebraska Not to Be Troubled by Advance in Price of Broom Corn.

The advance in the price of broom corn announced from the east last night will have considerable effect in Nebraska, but will have but little on consumers. The people who will profit by the rise in price will be the farmers who raise the broom corn. It may be a surprise to most people to learn that Nebraska is one of the states where the raising of broom corn can be successfully carried on and that in two localities at least it is one of the principal crops. The seat of the broom corn industry in the state is Greenwood, in Cass county, and Oakland, in Siemore county. Cass county produces the largest amount of the product and many farmers in that vicinity make it their principal crop. To successfully raise this crop experience is required, and in order to prepare it for market machinery which can be used for no other purpose must be purchased.

These facts have been the average farmer engaged in the business, but when once equipped for the work the crop is one of the most profitable that can be raised in the southern part of the state, selling at the present time at \$100 to \$120 per ton. Before the last advance the price was \$90 to \$70 per ton, which was quite remunerative to the farmer. The present advance is said to be due to the partial crop failure last year in Illinois fields, which produce the greater part of the supply for the western country. At the same time there was a considerable reduction in the acreage compared with previous years and the visible supply is less than it has been in years.

It was only two years ago that the attention of the public was drawn to the supply of broom corn in the United States. Previous to that time people bought their brooms as a staple article and from year to year there was no change in price. One day in 1899 the wholesale dealers, without a moment's warning, found that the price of brooms had been advanced nearly 100 per cent. They began to investigate and were told that the price of broom corn had advanced. Then came a story from Arcola, Ill., to the effect that a broom corn tract had been formed among the dealers of that place, headed by a few of the heaviest producers. The price was about \$35 per ton on a standard grade, when the combination started to buy. It advanced slowly to \$50, then to \$75, from which figure it jumped to nearly \$200 per ton, when the Arcola syndicate had succeeded in getting a corner on the product. This price was maintained but a day or two and then dropped to \$150, at which much of the stock was unloaded. From that time the price has never gone as low as it was before the combination was formed, ranging the last year between \$70 and \$100.

TRIBUTE TO JACK HAVERLY

Omaha Theatrical People Arrange to Strew Flowers Upon the Casket.

Manager Burgess of the Boyd theater received a telegram from Salt Lake City Sunday afternoon to the effect that the body of Jack Haverly, veteran minstrel man, will pass through Omaha on the Burlington at 6:45 this morning, and that the members of all troupes now in the city who so desire may be at the depot. U. D. Newell, manager of "The American Tramp," now at the Boyd, accompanied by the people of his company and by Manager Burgess, will be at the station with a quantity of flowers.

Cramer's Kidney and Liver Cure is the best; two sizes, 50c and \$1.00. Druggists.

Matrimonial Tie-Ups

Sidelights and Tones "Before and After Taking."

Whoever heard of anis in the role of matchmaking? Yet in the island of Sulu, one of Uncle Sam's recently acquired possessions in the Philippine archipelago, the maidens cannot find husbands without their intervention. A gentleman who recently visited the island has this to say of the curious state of affairs: "A most curious custom is to be found in that island. It obtains only among some of the more savage tribes of the far interior, called the Kakkohattochokka (I won't swear to spelling) tribe. These savages are very primitive people indeed and very savage in all their manners of life. There are not above 10,000 of this tribe and they live in the mountains of the interior. The way their young women are given in marriage is worth going miles to see. I saw the ceremony last month and I shall not soon forget it.

"When a young woman comes to the age of 14 she is deemed marriageable. A notice is given out by the town crier that on a certain day the young woman will be given in marriage. This day is within a month of the 14th birthday of the lady concerned, and is chosen by her, according to ancient custom. And the choosing of the day, by the way, is all that the bride has to say about the marriage. The crier, also, a few days later, calls out the dowry of the bride and proclaims her charms aloud in the market place. So all the population is notified and a goodly crowd of admirers gather to take a last look at the fair lady. The near relatives of the bride and the contestants—who have previously given their names in to the father of the girl—and a crowd of perhaps 100 persons, if the young woman is the daughter of a man of importance, gather to see the show.

"On the morning of the marriage the bride is taken out by her maids and crowned with lilies and clad in white. Then with much drum beating she is led forth and passes among the suitors and kisses each in turn. Then she is wreathed with more flowers and is seated to watch the fun. "Now, on that island of Sulu they have a kind of ant that puzzles the scientists. It has a double set of mandibles, one above and one below the head, and both entirely independent in action. These ants play a leading part in the marriage ceremony. The night before the ceremony the village priest goes out by the light of the moon and opens an ant hill with secret rites and carefully selects some ants equal in number to the number of suitors. These ants are placed in a row on the ground.

Where Sleep is Cheap.

Out on Thirteenth street there's a lodging house which does not demand a penny from its guests. Any person with 10 cents is welcome. Some persons without the 10 cents can secure a bed.

Guests at this register at a hostelry. In fact most of the patrons do not seem to have names and initials similar to those of the guests of the 32 hotels.

Only patrons who enjoy the personal acquaintance of the proprietor can hope to get a bed without paying an advance. He keeps a memorandum book from which the name de plume of some of his guests may be learned.

The first entry in the book is "Bird's Legs." There is nothing to indicate the sex or color of this individual. He, or she, is playing to poor luck, however, for the account shows that it has been running for two months.

"Buckeye" has page two in the account book and is delinquent in the sum of 40 cents. "N. G." owes the lodging house for seven nights' board. "Rab" has a balance in for three weeks. "Sis" owes the landlord 50 cents. "Spike" left an unpaid account three months ago and is on the black list. "Trippy" is square with the lodging house. "Dad Brown," "Chinaman," "Dock" and "Foggy Bill" have accounts which show no credits for some weeks.

Woman's Gentle Way.

"Will you please look on the school census records and find out how old Minnie James was when the enumerators went around this spring?"

"That's a request, a little woman who was leading a curly-headed boy made of Secretary Burgess of the Board of Education.

"Miss Poo, the principal out at Kellom, told me that I could find out if I came down here," the woman continued. "I know Minnie's only 4."

In response to the inquiries from the secretary the little woman gave the address of Minnie James and a search for her age began. Page after page of records was turned over in search of the child's age. Finally the clerk came upon the following entry: "Minnie James, aged 10."

"Good," the little woman exclaimed as she grabbed the curly-headed youngster in her arms. "That settles it. Minnie won't go to school another day this year if I can help it."

After hearing a sigh of joy the woman turned to Mr. Burgess and began a lengthy explanation: "You see, Minnie's mother is an awful disagreeable neighbor and she wants to lord it over all the rest of us. The 1st of September she packed Minnie off to school. Then she began taunting her neighbors by saying that she was smart enough to slip a 4-year-old child into school. She said her girl was better developed and more mature than our 4-year-olds. Well, Minnie ain't half as mature as this boy Willie of mine and Miss Poo said so. But heaven knows I don't want to send him to school. All I want to do is to show Mrs. James that she isn't half as smart as she thinks she is. Will you please give me a vaudeville stage. Many of their feats are difficult as well as amusing.

Amusements

Orpheum—While the headline act of this week's vaudeville bill is "The Beaux and Belles Olette," there are several numbers on the program that crowded this clever musical specialty hard for popular favor at the two Sunday performances. There are four beaux and a like number of belles in the octette. They are the people who first sang the popular song, "Toll Me, Pretty Maiden," in the Casino production of "Florodora," last season's New York light opera success. Each member of the octette possesses a good voice, the feminine members are pretty in face, shapely in figure and graceful, while the men are equally attractive. Their repertory include several catchy songs.

Maximilian and Shields, a pair of comedians who have been seen frequently upon the local Orpheum stage, present practically the same act they always have used with a few variations. It is laughable enough to bear repetition.

Charles and Minnie Sa-Yan are comedy acrobats who have few superiors upon the

stage. Then, each with an ant hankling to his forehead, the young men go back to the presence of the bride. Then there are long and elaborate rites, while the young men go around and dance before the bride, each with a monstrous ant hankling to his finger. Then she is blindfolded and the young men are lined up for the selection.

"The drums are beaten with renewed vigor and the bride goes along the line of the suitors and inserts her forehead in the upper mandible of the ants that hang to the fingers of the suitors, each in turn. The first ant that closes his pincer on the digit of the fair lady wins her for the man to whose finger it is hanging. Then the chosen bridegroom strikes the ant to the ground and the bride is carried off in a bounteous pleasure shower which settled the dust and cooled the atmosphere so that when the beautiful blue enamelled automobile coupe, gorgeous with polished brass trimmings, was drawn up in front of the church by a team of prancing steeds in shining silver trappings, the bride and groom attending circumstances agreed that it was the most strictly up-to-date wedding of the season.

Dame nature herself contributed her share to make the affair perfect, as just before the hour set for the marriage there was a bounteous pleasure shower which settled the dust and cooled the atmosphere so that when the beautiful blue enamelled automobile coupe, gorgeous with polished brass trimmings, was drawn up in front of the church by a team of prancing steeds in shining silver trappings, the bride and groom attending circumstances agreed that it was the most strictly up-to-date wedding of the season.

The great crowd that filled the church and overflowed the sidewalks, and which was mostly composed of young ladies arrayed in summer costumes of all the colors of the rainbow, were for the moment stunned by the beautiful sight; but as the bridal party ascended the steps they recovered their composure, and a constant stream of expressions such as "Isn't she lovely?" "Isn't she beautiful?" "What a beautiful dress!" "Isn't her bouquet grand?" "Oh, how pretty!" "What a stately figure!" "She's the loveliest bride I ever saw!" etc., followed.

"Talk about a symphony in white! It was a march in *Allegretto*, with little cupid to the lead. The bridal procession moved up the aisle to the beautiful strains of a wedding march rendered by the Touhill family orchestra on mandolins and guitars. The solemn and binding words that made the man and wife were generously punctuated with low, soft outbursts in cabined and mantric strains of "Hearts and Flowers" by the Touhill orchestra.

The bride's trousseau was composed of rich cream-colored satin, trimmed with old liberty silk and applique pointed Paris lace. She wore a hat that was well it was a perfect dream, beautiful flowers in the hair, silk and satin settings, and she carried a pretty bouquet of roses. The groom is a very popular young man. For the present they will make their home with the bride's mother.

Rounded Up at Random.

which some kindly intonation of a drunken man seemed to tell him was under his steed-combs. Then he sat down hard between a little boy and a woman.

The latter had evidently spotted the man's condition a block ahead. She was plainly of gentle breeding, but was afflicted with the somewhat of a woman's rights, mental banquet look, which, when surmounted by a high, white forehead, is so fatal to the attractiveness of a woman.

From the start she had watched the man with a keen interest shining from her eyes. It was clearly her business and she intended to mix things if possible.

Fortune favored her, for the man had chosen a place at her side. Then he lost his control a little and slid down in his seat in a limp curve. He maintained a constant metronome movement from one side to the other. First he would fall against the woman and jerk his head quickly, overbalancing then far to the other side, expecting to find as firm a support there. But the little boy was too small for the purpose and the man usually sprawled all over the car at that end of his seat.

The woman watched him fiercely, thinking up her little speech meanwhile. Soon she was prepared. "You're a nice specimen of a man, aren't you? I should think you'd be ashamed of yourself, appearing on the streets and in a public conveyance in such a condition, especially in the presence of women. You're certainly a man to be admired."

The man listened with courteous attention, but his face wore a bored look. His good-natured silence ruffled the temper of the woman. She raised her voice and added a little menace to the scorn it conveyed. "Do you know what I would do if I were your wife I would give you poison."

The man was aroused from his apathy. "Well, if I were your husband I'd take it," he said. "For this man was a charter member of the Knockers' union. The woman of the tall, broad forehead was silenced.

Foundation is Laid.

In commemoration of his recent election as judge of the county court, the young lawyer is giving a little dinner to his two former college chums, both of whom are women. The judge and one chum sat in the hotel lobby awaiting the other. Finally the tardy one approached.

"Well," said the first chum, "I am hungry and I move, your honor, that we proceed to adjourn this dinner as evidence of your good faith."

"The dinner shall be admitted," said the judge, rising. "Your honor," roared the second chum. "I object most strenuously to the admission of this evidence at this time."

"State your objection," sternly replied the court. "No sufficient foundation has been laid."

"Sustained," ruled the judge, and forthwith the trio proceeded to the hotel buffet and laid it.

TO REPAIR BROOKLYN BRIDGE

Expert Engineers Present Report of Changes Needed in Its Structure.

MUST BE CONSIDERABLY STRENGTHENED

No Immediate Danger, but Modern Improvements Are Necessary for It to Withstand Constantly Increasing Traffic.

NEW YORK, Oct. 6.—District Attorney Philip Burton and Joseph Mayer, the special engineering experts appointed by him to look into the condition of the Brooklyn bridge after the breaking of several suspender rods and suspender bands in July. These experts were appointed to make this report with a view of presenting the matter to the state senate. It should be found that the bridge department had been negligent.

The report of the experts was first submitted to Mr. Philip September 14. It was full of technicalities, such as the general public could not readily understand. One trouble is that the moving loads which cross the bridge have increased so rapidly that the structure must be strengthened.

The experts find that the inspection of the structure as maintained by the bridge department is faulty, but that the bridge is now practically as strong as when completed. One trouble is that the moving loads which cross the bridge have increased so rapidly that the structure must be strengthened.

Wind Pressure Partly Blamed.

The accident of the breaking of the suspender rods and bands, which was discovered in July, though some of these rods had broken previously, is found to have been due to the wind pressure, the wind blowing against the platform and cars causing a pressure transverse to the bridge, thus causing the rods to bend. These rods also were pulled to the north because of the cable and bore hard on the top edges of their trunnions. This must be due, says the report, to some defect of adjustment or construction by which the rods failed to lie in the plane of the cables, or the trunnions failed to be perpendicular to these planes. These rods should have been lubricated, which was not done, and had careful inspection been maintained the bending and breaking would have been prevented.

Engineers Should Supplant Mechanics.

The experts maintain that the inspection of the bridge should be done by engineers and not by mechanics, as at present.

Referring to stories which have appeared in print that electrolysis has weakened the bridge, experts declare they found no evidence of this condition. They also say there is no useless lead load in the form of mail tubes, telegraph and telephone cables on the bridge.

They find that the safety of the bridge can be increased by remedying certain defects in the design. They hasten to say, however, that they do not criticize the designer and call attention to the fact that since this structure was designed great advancement has been made in such work and if such a bridge were now built the designer would have the benefit of the experience gained since the Brooklyn bridge was erected. They say that the needed improvements could be made with comparatively moderate cost and also declare that the present margin of safety is very small that the necessity for repairs is very urgent.

BLACK DIAMONDS EXPENSIVE

Rumor of Advance in Price of Anthracite Coal, Which is Now \$1 Per Ton Above 1900.

The man who hasn't laid in or contracted for his winter's supply of hard coal is liable to wake up some morning and find the price selling up in a fashion that will not be good for his peace of mind. More than 90 per cent of the hard coal produced in the United States is under the control of an eastern syndicate, which charges \$6 per ton for the coal in Chicago. The freight rate from Chicago to Omaha is \$2.50, thus making the price of hard coal to the dealer \$8.50. Carriage is at least 50 cents a ton. Local coal dealers complain that there is no profit in selling coal at \$9.50.

Last year at this time anthracite coal was selling at \$8.50 per ton and the price was advanced to \$9.50 in the winter, no reduction having been made since that time. It was stated by a dealer yesterday that an advance of 15 cents per ton will be made this week and that by November 30 the price will probably be \$10 per ton, with a further advance of 50 cents per ton about January 1.

HORSES COME HOME SICK

W. A. Paxton Has Bad Luck with His String on the Grand Circuit.

The last of W. A. Paxton's horses which were sent to the grand circuit last spring will be back in Omaha this morning. They are Merchant and George Castle. Like the others of Mr. Paxton's horses they come back in bad shape.

Will Make His Home in Prague.

R. V. Miskovsky leaves today for Europe, to make his home in Prague, where he has a position in Prague which will be his future home. Until the recent reorganization of the papers Mr. Miskovsky was editor of the Pokrok Zapadni.

Dr. Lyon's PERFECT TOOTH POWDER AN ELEGANT TOILET LUXURY. Used by people of refinement for over a quarter of a century.

Dr. McGrew (Age 52) SPECIALIST Diseases and Disorders of Men Only. 20 years' experience, 15 years in Omaha. VARICOCELE cured in less than 10 days. SYPHILIS and all blood diseases cured.

CHARGES LOW. Treatment by mail, P. O. Box 108, Office over 25 South 14th Street, between Farnam and Douglas Sts., OMAHA, NEB.

\$5.00 A MONTH SPECIALIST In All Diseases and Disorders of Men 10 years in Omaha and HYDROCELE cured.

DEATH OF MRS. L. M. BOUK

Deceased Had Held Positions of Trust in Several Secret Orders of the West.

Mrs. Louis M. Bouk, wife of James W. Bouk, died Sunday morning at the Presbyterian hospital. The funeral will be from the First Methodist Episcopal church at 3:30 this afternoon.

The deceased was prominent in lodge and church work. She was a member of Vesta chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and of Ivy Rebekah lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Omaha.

Good Lands Cheap. The Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad has announced low rate excursions for homeseekers to the farming and grazing country along their lines for October, November and December, 1901.

BLACK DIAMONDS EXPENSIVE. Rumor of Advance in Price of Anthracite Coal, Which is Now \$1 Per Ton Above 1900.

PRESIDENT HARRIS TODAY. Head of the Burlington Lines Expected to Reach Omaha This Morning from St. Joseph.

Is your office cold in winter? If it is, the best thing you can do is to move—and move now. It may save you some doctors' bills, to say nothing of annoyance and discomfort.

The Bee Building. Is the warmest—best heated—best ventilated—best in every respect building in Omaha.

R. C. Peters & Co. Rental Agents. Ground Floor Bee Bldg.

Wabash Line SPECIALS \$19—Buffalo and Return—\$13 \$29—New York and Return—\$29. A great many people want long, rich, heavy hair; but how to get it, that is what puzzles them.

